



# Ashburton College

Individual Excellence in a Supportive Learning Environment

Issue 27  
16 August 2018  
**News**

## Message From The Principal

### College Exams

This column is released on the Thursday before College exams begin on Wednesday 22 August. If you are a parent of a child in Years 11-13 at our College then they should be studying for their school exams next week. Nearly all our students will have some form of exam, although they are less prevalent in vocational courses.

These exams serve three functions. Firstly they provide the learner, their whanau and College staff with an indicator of the students' readiness for the NCEA exams in November. Because these exams are 2.5 months before the 'real thing' there is enough time to catch up on any gaps.

The second aspect is that they serve as a 'wake-up call' to those students who have a relaxed attitude towards study!

The third function of these College exams is that they are the reference for those students who may need a 'derived grade' in November. A derived grade is the consideration given to those students who, for some unexpected reason, cannot sit the NCEA exams. For example, last year we had six students who required this assessment, through a variety of unfortunate circumstances. In those cases the students were awarded the grade they were given in their College exam. Obviously if the school exam results were poor, due to a lack of revision or lax work habits, then the student was 'stuck' with this grade.

It is interesting, also, how even exams are having to change with the times. In this year's exams students are forbidden to wear watches because so many watches now are internet capable. The other change requires our exam rooms to use digital clocks rather than analogue, due to the fact that a considerable portion of today's teens cannot tell the time via a traditional clock. This will no doubt generate some wry smiles and/or disbelief amongst our grandparents.

### Subject Selection

At the moment we are in the midst of our subject selection process for 2019. This applies to all students as they make choices for the following year. Can I urge students and their parents or caregivers to discuss carefully their choices because the choice of subject often determines future pathways.

It is important that these choices are returned within the timelines, because from these returns we make choices about which subjects will operate.

### Appreciation

May I acknowledge a former staff member who has gone 'above and beyond' the call of duty, and retirement. Many of you will remember Dave Christensen who retired at the end of 2017. Dave has returned to help us for a few weeks as the relief teacher in our Kohanga class, before our new appointee is able to start. What's best of all is that he does it with a smile! Well done and thanks!



Ross Preece  
Principal

## Information

### Internal College Examinations - Year 11, 12 and 13 students

**These take place from Wednesday 22 - Tuesday 28 August**

**Students are:**

- to be in uniform when on-site/sitting exams;
- not required in College when not undertaking an exam.

**Please note** - there is provision to use the College Library for study and, when at home, students are encouraged to use this time wisely to prepare for next exams.

### Importance of these Examinations

These examinations are significant as not only do they provide students with a very accurate gauge as to their current performance, but the result may be used as evidence of the standard of their work should they, for some reason, not be able to sit the NCEA examination later in the year. This latter situation should not be under-estimated.

### Pre-Exam Study Nights - Library

These valuable nights continue to be available, with teaching staff support, in the **College Library from 7:00pm-9:00pm, on -**

- Thursday 16 August
- Monday 20 August
- Tuesday 21 August
- Wednesday 22 August
- Thursday 23 August
- Monday 27 August

Additionally there are individual subject support and tutoring opportunities for students.

**Traditionally the nights are well-supported by students and we encourage parents and caregivers to promote this assistance to their student.**

## Information



### Ashburton College

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### Open Evening

**Thursday 06 September 2018  
5:30pm - 7:30pm**



**Achieve Quality Show Pride Have Respect**  
*The most important thing we do is grow young people.*



**Future students, parents/caregivers,  
whanau and community members  
are warmly invited and encouraged to attend.  
During the evening you will have the opportunity to -**

- Meet with the Principal, staff and students.
- View our facilities.
- Hear and see what the College can offer your child and family.
- Enjoy a sausage sizzle, coffee, tea, juice on the chessboard.

**Presentations start in the College Auditorium  
at 5:30pm and 6:15pm.**

**These are followed by guided tours of the College,  
or you may choose to self-tour by following the signs.**

**EVERYONE MOST WELCOME**

### NCEA Examination Entry Fees 2018 and Financial Assistance

**NCEA Entry Fees (\$76.70) now being processed for Year 11-13 students.**

#### Financial Assistance -

**application forms and payment required before Monday 27 August**

If you qualify for **Financial Assistance** please come into the College Office **before Monday 27 August 2018** with your Community Service Card or Proof of Income and a Financial Assistance form

can be completed and signed.

**You qualify for Financial Assistance if -**

- You receive Income Support or a Student Allowance (Income - Community Service Card) or (Beneficiary - Benefit based)
- You are eligible for an Income-based Application (you are applying for Financial Assistance on the basis that your family income is within the levels set for receiving the Community Services Card).

**If this is the case - visit Work and Income's website for  
further information - [www.workandincome.govt.nz](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz)**

- More than two students from a family are entering for qualifications in 2018 you may be eligible.

If you qualify for Financial Assistance your fee is reduced to \$20.00.

**Payment for all Fees - by Monday 27 August 2018**

These are to be made to the College Office.

**Please note:** This is the last day that fees can be accepted.

**For further information, please telephone the College Office 308 4193.**



### Pink Ribbon Breast Cancer Street Appeal

On **Friday and Saturday 12-13 October** the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal volunteers take to the streets to raise awareness and funds to fight breast cancer.

**This year the appeal falls in the school holiday break,  
and the Breast Cancer Foundation is asking if you can  
volunteer some collection time.**

The Foundation says that their vision is 'Zero deaths from Breast Cancer'. The challenge is still enormous and they are grateful for your help to enable work in pushing for new frontiers in early detection, treatment and support.

**Volunteers can sign themselves up for individual shifts at  
[www.pinkribbonvolunteer.co.nz](http://www.pinkribbonvolunteer.co.nz)**

*Please just bear in mind that anyone under the age of 16  
must volunteer with an adult.*

*The Foundation is more than happy to provide a certificate  
to those students who have volunteered in the appeal.*

**To find out more please call - 0508 105 105,  
or email at [pinkribbon@bcf.org.nz](mailto:pinkribbon@bcf.org.nz)**

### Ashburton College Enrolment Week - Interviews for students entering Year 9 at College in 2019.

**Enrolment interviews will be undertaken on-site  
at Ashburton College**

**during the week Monday 17 - Friday 21 September 2018.**

*Further information will be distributed to our contributing schools, and placed in  
the newsletter closer to the time*



### Ashburton College Music Department presents *Music Evening 2018*

Tuesday 25th September, Ashburton College Auditorium, 7:00pm

Tickets \$8.00 - available from the Ashburton College Office, ph: 308 4193



### Transition Department News

#### Open Days/Evenings and Information Sessions:

**These open events provide an excellent opportunity for students and families to visit and find out more about future options, as part of study/career decision-making.**

Massey University Open Day (Wellington) -

Friday 31 August, 9:00am-3:00pm.  
Study at Victoria University Day Friday 31 August.

#### Liaison Visits:

During Term Three, liaison staff from various tertiary institutions return to the College to help students with their applications for 2019.

**These, and other visits, are scheduled as below:**

NZ Defence Force Monday 20 August, at Year 13 Forum (12:25pm - 1:20pm).

Otago Polytechnic for Course Planning Wednesday 29 August, 9:00am

Otago University for Course Planning Monday 10 September, during Forum

University of Canterbury for Course Planning Monday 17 September, during Forum

Lincoln University for Course Planning Monday 15 October, during Forum

#### University/Polytechnic Accommodation

On-line applications for accommodation in University and Polytechnic Halls of Residence in 2019 opened on Wednesday 01 August.

Information on this process has been given to Year 13 students, and is also available from the Transition Office.

**Studylink Tertiary Evening - Tuesday 11 September, 7:30pm,  
College Staffroom**

Staff from Studylink (who organise student loans and allowances) will visit College and speak at this information evening being held for students who are considering tertiary study in 2019, and their parents/caregivers.

**An information form will be available from Forum nearer the time.**

### College Phoenix Magazine - Sports Team/Cultural Group Inserts

**For College sports teams and/or cultural groups which  
didn't have team photos taken on Monday 06 August**

If you would like to be included in this year's College Magazine please forward written reports and photos to:

James Jenkinson, Magazine Editor - at [jn@ashcoll.school.nz](mailto:jn@ashcoll.school.nz) -  
**by Sunday 09 September.**

*Photos must have names listed, each row named from left to right.  
All information to be provided in digital form.*



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## Events

### Tokorozawa Kita High School Visit

Ashburton College Teacher of Japanese, Hiromi Horsley, said that we have had a lovely Japanese group visiting, from 24 July to 04 August. Tokorozawa Kita High School is our sister school in Japan, with whom we have a good relationship now for over twenty years.

Twenty four Tokorozawa Kita High School students and two teachers, Atsushi Kikuchi and Rina Saito, formed the tour party. They travelled from 37 degrees of heat to 0 degrees in Ashburton! It took time to adjust, and Hiromi said they looked a bit tired but they were so excited to meet their host families, as were their College host families to meet them! College sincerely thanks the twenty-four lovely host families who welcomed their billet and the Japanese group.

While in Ashburton the group attended Ashburton College, visited Rosebank Village, Hampstead Primary School, University of Canterbury and had a day trip to Tekapo. At Rosebank and Hampstead Primary School, they shared Japanese culture and made some presentations. They communicated with both young children and the elderly people very well.



(Pictured left,  
front table clockwise  
from left): in class were  
Shasha Watagedora,  
Miar Diab,  
Hayley Luxton.

The students said, 'everyone was so kind at Rosebank, and all the students were very friendly, and cute, at Hampstead's Primary School'.

At UC, Dr Masayoshi Ogino organised a class for the Japanese students with his students and they had a lecture, discussion, and shared lunch. Masayoshi has a PhD, is a Lecturer in the University of Canterbury's Japanese Department, and a Researcher. Dr Ogino's research interests include second language development and the application of research insights to second language learning and teaching. He has strong interests in collaboration, connectivity and articulation between the secondary and tertiary levels for the development of Japanese language education.

A trip to Tekapo, on Wednesday 01 August, was enjoyed in warm weather and was a beautiful day. After visiting the church (pictured below left) and lake, it was then to Tekapo Springs to enjoy the snow tube, ice skating (pictured below right), and hot pools.



A farewell evening was held on the Thursday evening and, after dinner, Japanese students received a certificate and a small New Zealand present, and had a splendid presentation time, putting on a show for their host families. They sang a few songs, including their school song, and performed a traditional Japanese dance. They prepared everything well for the farewell.



(Pictured above): Part of their presentations during the evening.

On the Saturday morning, they said goodbye to their host families and left for Auckland. They had free shopping time in Auckland, and then returned to 37 degree temperatures at home!

Japanese students are always very polite and quiet but, in the last few days, they were confident enough to show their feelings. It was a short stay but, Hiromi said, they learned English and about the New Zealand lifestyle in the twelve days they were here.

All the students said 'my host family is so kind and lovely. Food is nice! Had a great weekend and had an amazing experience'. They also found a huge difference between Japanese and New Zealand schools. All their experiences will remain unforgettable memories for them.



(Pictured above): With their host families, just before leaving Ashburton to return to Japan.

## Congratulations

### Year 13 Accounting Class Visits Leech and Partners Ltd

The Year 13 Accounting class had their yearly visit to Leech and Partners Ltd on Tuesday 07 August.

Teacher Clair Bedward, said that nineteen students started the morning off with an executive breakfast at The Somerset Grocer before moving upstairs to Leech and Partners, where Neil Donaldson welcomed the students and then introduced them to three of his staff who have completed their commerce degrees in the last eight years.

These young women shared their education and career journeys with the students, allowing our students to see the study options available, plus the many opportunities a commerce degree can offer, especially if they become a qualified Chartered Accountant. Advice was also offered on how to prepare for future employment, and the students were encouraged to make informed decisions.

Neil and Debbie then gave the students an overview of the workings of an accountancy firm. The students were given a tour of the premises, a summary of the services available and a look at the accounting programmes in place.

Using 'Dummy Companies' the students were shown how to prepare financial statements and the accompanying notes, giving them a real-life view of the activities they have been learning in class. This is invaluable in giving meaning to classroom learning, as they can see what they are doing is exactly what happens in the workplace.

Ashburton College would like to thank Leech and Partners Ltd for once again allowing us to visit their office. The time they give up during their busy period to help the students is very much appreciated.

### Excellent Results at Canterbury Secondary Schools' Duathlon

This was held in wet and wintry conditions at Ruapuna Speedway in Christchurch on Monday 06 August.

Whilst College had no individual competitors this year, Team Manager Carolyn Clough said that three teams from Ashburton College toughed it out in the dismal conditions, with excellent results. All teams competed together over the same course of a 2km run, 10km cycle and a second 2km run.

#### Winning Team and 3rd Placed Girls' Team Overall

**The Under 14 Girls' Team of Ella Pearson** (runner) and **Maddi Lowry** (cyclist) were dominant in their age group, winning by 49 seconds from the Christchurch Girls' High School team in second place, and Villa Maria College in third.

The AshColl Girls' time of 36:51 saw them finish as the third girls' team overall, a most impressive result for such a young team.



(Pictured right,  
left and right):  
Maddi Lowry  
and Ella Pearson  
with their hard-  
earned medals.



(Pictured left):  
Maddi Lowry  
pushing hard on  
the cycle leg.

#### 2nd and 4th Placings for Boys' Teams

**Our Under 16 Boys' Teams** were up against some strong competition but they also turned on great performances.

#### 2nd Placed

**Quinn Ritchie** (runner) and **Oliver Davidson** (cyclist) finished strongly in a time of 32:29, to place second behind a very slick team from Christchurch Boys' High School, with Rangiora High School in third place.



(Pictured above): Quinn Ritchie  
on the run leg.



(Pictured above, left and right):  
Quinn Ritchie and Oliver Davidson with  
their Silver Medals).

**College's second team of Michael Munro** (runner) and **Ethan Titheridge** (cyclist) showed great promise to finish 4th in a time of 34:21, just 11 seconds away from a place on the podium.

It has to be said that it took the entire trip back to Ashburton, with the van heater on high, for everyone to thaw and dry out! However, the teams will be back next year in the hope of sunshine and even faster times.

### Superb Day's Skiing and Snowboarding for Year 9 and 10 Students

The Year 9 and 10 ski trip participants had a superb day at Mt Hutt on Thursday 09 August. Forty four students met the bus in the early morning and were rewarded with a magical day of skiing and snowboarding.

Annually, this ski experience is provided for Year 9 and 10 students, with a particular focus being on non-skiing students in order to provide a new experience. Therefore Year 9 and 10 students are encouraged to take part in these days, which include lessons by trained tutors.

On this occasion, thirteen students experienced their first day ever at Mt Hutt. Phys Ed teacher Vaughan Matheson is a competent snowboarder, so it was his job to have the students on their snowboards before the lesson at 10:30am.

The competent skiers met with Phys Ed teacher, and organiser, Karen McKenzie and Phys Ed teacher Ron Carlson at the top of Summit 6 for some advice on how to use their edges down the steeper slopes.

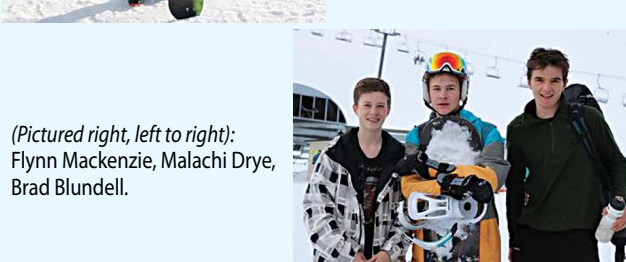
In the afternoon, students had free time skiing and snowboarding, while the teachers were available to take students up the chairlifts and show them the way down. It was great to see more competent students helping their learner friends down Highway 72.

Anne Sheehan from the College Office joined the group, for her first experience at Mt Hutt in thirty nine years! She was available for moral support in the cafeteria for any student in need of this although, being such a lovely day up the mountain, she was hardly required by students for more than a few moments each. Deputy Principal Helen Shore-Taylor, was part of the staff ski group, and able to enjoy being with the students in a different role.

One student described the day as 'the best day ever' and Karen McKenzie's response was 'we have to agree'.



(Pictured left): Mt Hutt skifield in its  
snowy splendour, with  
Lucas Jackson camouflaged in his  
ski gear, in the foreground.



(Pictured right, left to right):  
Flynn Mackenzie, Malachi Drye,  
Brad Blundell.



(Pictured left, left to right):  
On the decking, amidst the  
hub-bub of preparations,  
are Mya Johnston,  
Morga Roulston, Ruby Gray,  
Riley Tindall.

## Coming Events

#### AUGUST

- 16** Aoraki Secondary Schools' Girls' Badminton Championships, Timaru
- 17** FLAVA Festival, Timaru
- 20** Defence Force presentation, Year 13 Forum, Auditorium
- 22** Year 11-13 exams
- 26-28** Postponement day - Aoraki Ski Championships, Mt Dobson
- 30** Mufti Day - White Ribbon cause