



Message From The Principal

Changes to Year 9 Programme, from 2019

We have made some decisions about changes we are going to introduce to our Year 9 programme for 2019.

These changes have two aims in mind:

- One is to better equip our students for the future;
- The other is that we are aware that our previous model did not allow adequate preparation for NCEA in some subjects, given the amount of time that had been previously allocated to option subjects.

In 2019 we are introducing some guided support for students to choose subjects previously known as options.

We are also excited about the prospect of introducing a pilot programme, based on an integrated learning model rather than the more traditional subject silo model. This pilot will be staffed by teachers who volunteer and will be offered to Year 9 students who wish to be part of it.

Information via Public Information Evening

To explain the rationale for these changes, and to give more detail, we are holding a public information evening specifically for current Year 8 pupils, their families/whanau and their teachers.

This will be on **Monday 02 July 2018 at 7:00pm in our College Auditorium**. We will also advertise this to all our contributing schools and look forward to seeing a good house.

College Cleaning Staff

Can I put in a plug for some unsung heroes in our school. Our College cleaning staff take much pride in doing a good job and many of them have been with us for a considerable period of time.

At this time of year the work is not easy, particularly as mud and leaves are trekked into our buildings. It is a largely thankless task but I would just like to take this opportunity to acknowledge their mahi (work) at this difficult time of year.

Community Support

Can I also acknowledge the significant number of local businesses who are providing Gateway Programme placements and work experience for our senior students. It enables our students to try areas of possible future employment without having to commit to tertiary courses and fees. It also enables possible employers to gather future employees.

We greatly appreciate the level of support from our local companies and we receive plenty of positive feedback on the qualities of our students. My thanks goes to all of those involved in this programme.

NCEA Predicted Credits System

For students in Years 11 to 13 we have activated the predicted credits system within our school.

This requires teachers to estimate how many credits a student will achieve as an individual in their subject. This is then tallied as a total, and provides an early prediction of how the student is likely to achieve at the end of the year.

We will be contacting any student's parents/caregivers if we have worries about how their year is tracking. It is much better to have this information in Term 2, than when the results are published in January the following year.



Ross Preece
Principal

Information

Dropping Off and Collecting Students at College

With the cooler, wet and/or wintry weather we understand an increase in vehicle movements as parents and caregivers drop-off and collect students at College.

May we please ask though for care when this is happening –

- Road safety is hugely important, there are a lot of road users in a small area.
- Please avoid parking on the yellow lines outside the Walnut Avenue entrance.
- Please respect residents' properties – avoid parking over driveways or driving into their personal drive entrances.
- Remain aware that the College driveway is not suitable for dropping off/picking students up from. This adds to congestion and compromises safety.

We do ask, please, that you –

- Consider where you park.
- Park in a legal parking space, and have your child walk to where you are parked.
- Park in the parallel parks across the road from the College, or - there may be space in the shingled parking area on the west side of the College.

**We thank you for your help,
and for your courtesy to residents,
College students and road users**

Tokorozawa Kita High School Visit – Additional Homestays Required

Tokorozawa Kita High School, our sister school in Japan, has been visiting the College annually for over twenty years now. In 2017, and previously, College's Japan Tour group was hosted by the school and it is great to be able to welcome them here.

Twenty four students will be visiting us and we are expected to place them in homes individually. The students will have a weekend with their host families as well as the week nights. During the school days, they either attend College or participate in an exchange event organised by the school. This is a paid hosting situation.

There will be a pre-arrival host family meeting, to talk over hosting, with an opportunity to ask and have questions answered, **but if you have any questions in the meantime please contact our**

**International Homestay Co-ordinator,
Joanne Wakelin we@ashcoll.school.nz
or Teacher of Japanese, Hiromi Horsley hl@ashcoll.school.nz
The Tokorozawa students are with us from
Tuesday 24 July – Saturday 04 August (eleven nights).**

Events

Smallbore Rifle Shooting for NCEA Credits

Teacher of Physical Education, Karen McKenzie, tells us that Ashburton College is the only school in New Zealand where Year 12 students can obtain four Level 2 NCEA Credits in Smallbore Rifle Shooting. The Coronation Rifle Shooting Range on West Street is one of the top clubs in New Zealand and it possibly can claim to have the most New Zealand representatives of any club in New Zealand. Certainly, there is a high number of New Zealand shooters out of this club.

The Coronation Club has several enthusiastic instructors who have guided many students to achieve great results. In particular, is former College staff member, Bryan Hunter, who is the Co-ordinator of this opportunity.

Ashburton College had thirty nine students complete at least nine rounds of shooting over the three days, on Monday 21, Friday 25 and Wednesday 30 May. Four students were rewarded with an Excellence outcome. Another six students were close to Excellence but still needing to produce one-two more cards at the Excellence standard.

To obtain Excellence, students must wear a special jacket with a sling and shoot three cards obtaining 90% or higher.

To obtain Merit, students had to shoot 85% or higher, on three cards, using a support. Twenty eight students achieved this grade.

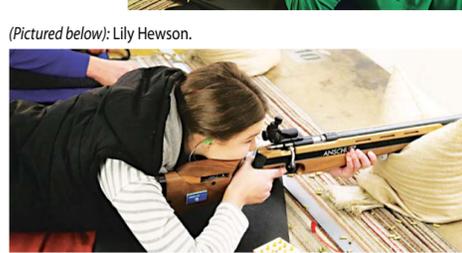
The College sincerely thanks Coronation Club members Bryan Hunter, Brian Hawksby, Coby Snowden, Richard Harrison-Lee, Shania Harrison-Lee, Colin Taylor, Sandy Bennett, Sarah Clifford and Nina McKenzie for their expertise over the three days.



(Pictured left, front and rear): Jacob Kilworth and Dani McArthur.



(Pictured right, front and rear): Liam Pram and Aidan Elvines.



(Pictured below): Lily Hewson.

Information

Public Information Evening

Monday 02 July, 7:00pm, College Auditorium
Changes to Year 9 Programme, 2019

For: Current Year 8 pupils, their families/whanau and teachers, and any members of the Mid Canterbury community with an interest in future education.

Come along and be informed about:

- The integrated subject pilot for Year 9 in 2019.
- Changes to our core subject and option structure.
- Introduction of an extended Family Form time to enable specific teaching of the skills and dispositions that will prepare our students for their future.

Transition Department News

Liaison Visits:

Various tertiary institutions and community groups visit the College during our Year 13 Forum on Mondays to share information with students about courses and programmes they offer.

Year 12 students are welcome to attend also, but need to register their names at the Transition Office before the visit.

The remaining visits are scheduled for Term Two:

- ACADS – Monday 18 June, 12:25pm.
- Ara Institute – Lunchtime Drop-In session, T12, Wednesday 20 June.

Events

Phoenix Rising thanks Ashburton Lions Club

On Wednesday 06 June, the College's Junior Choir, Phoenix Rising, had the pleasure of performing for the Ashburton Lions at their annual dinner at the Hotel Ashburton.

This is the second year the choir has had this great opportunity, giving them the chance to thank the Lions' members for their generous support in sponsoring our tour t-shirts for the 2017 'Top of the South' Tour.

Our programme included the Choir's three pieces prepared for *The Big Sing*, as well as an item by Zoe Diedericks on Cello, and a quartet performance by our Senior Choral Leaders.

After the music, Erin Connelly-Whyte and Tori Kelland presented a powerpoint slide show of our 2017 'Top of the South' Tour.

Once again, Lions' members were generous in their support of Phoenix Rising, presenting Musical Director Angela Cresswell with a donation of \$1200 for choir activities in 2018. Such community support is of significant value and sincerely appreciated.

(Pictured below, left to right): The Senior Choral Leaders, Zoe Diedericks, Erin Connelly-Whyte, Amy Pearson and Tori Kelland performing *The Prayer*.



Congratulations

College A Netball Team Has Good Win in Supernet Competition

Coach Kaye Kennedy said that the team very much enjoyed playing their Supernet Competition game at home on Wednesday night, 06 June, at the EA Networks Centre. The sideline support was greatly appreciated.

Involvement in the Supernet Competition is by qualification. It is an elite competition for the best eight girls' netball teams from Canterbury secondary schools.

This year's competing teams are – St Andrew's College, St Margaret's College, Villa Maria College, Ashburton College, Christchurch Girls' School, Rangiora High School, Rangiora Girls' School and Kaiapoi High School.

Through May and June the Round Robin competition is being played, prior to promotion/relegation on 04 July, before heading into seeded Round Robin play of two sections.

Last Wednesday's Result

Last Wednesday's game was against Rangiora Girls' School from Christchurch. Kaye said the College team had a 'bit of a slow start' in the first quarter (9-all), but the girls responded to the 'let's lift the intensity' speech and played great second and third quarters, going ahead at half-time by 20-15, and then staying ahead by the end of three-quarter time, by 33-21.

The team apparently 'went off the boil a bit' in the final quarter but were still able to win by a very creditable 39 goals to 27.



Congratulations

Top Honours for Highland Dancers

Five Ashburton College highland dancers competed in the Otago Centre Annual Championships, held in Dunedin's University College of Education, over Queen's Birthday Weekend.

Their results were most impressive, as follows:

Britney Moore
1st South Island Open Sword Dance; Under 18 Sword; Seann Triubhas and Double Time Jig.

3rd Under 18 Sailors' Hornpipe; Irish Hornpipe
4th Under 18 Highland Fling
5th Under 18 South Island Reel O'Tulloch

Eirinn MacLean
1st Otago Championship Highland Fling, Under 18
3rd Under 18 South Island Reel O'Tulloch

Lucy Moore
1st Under 16 Sailors' Hornpipe
2nd Under 16 South Island Seann Triubhas
4th Under 16 Highland Fling

Megan Harrison
1st Under 18 South Island Reel O'Tulloch; Under 16 Highland Fling
2nd Under 18 Highland Fling; Under 16 Sailors' Hornpipe
3rd Under 16 Highland Reel
4th Under 16 Irish Hornpipe
5th Under 16 Sword

Milly Christie
2nd Under 14 Irish Hornpipe; Seann Triubhas
3rd Under 14 Sword Dance; Highland Fling; Highland Reel; Under 16 South Island Seann Triubhas

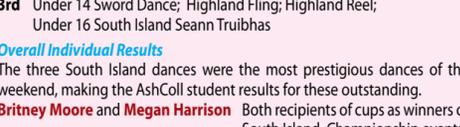
Overall Individual Results

The three South Island dances were the most prestigious dances of the weekend, making the AshColl student results for these outstanding.

Britney Moore and **Megan Harrison** Both recipients of cups as winners of South Island Championship events.

Britney Moore Winner Most Points Under 18; Most Points Highland Under 18 in Highland Dances. Trophy – Most Outstanding Highland Performance.

Megan Harrison Runner-up: Most Points Under 16 years.



(Pictured left, left and right): Britney Moore and Megan Harrison.

(Pictured below, left to right): Milly Christie, Eirinn MacLean, Lucy Moore, Britney Moore, Megan Harrison.

Kaye said that the girls are improving every game, and that it was good to get a win as, at that stage, there were five of the eight teams all on one win.

College is now sitting fourth after that game, with the team's goal for this round being to stay out of the promotion/relegation game situation. They are now in a good position to achieve this.

As of writing this article the team was due to play Villa Maria (Wednesday 13 June), which was expected to be a tough encounter.

The team's success gauge is whether they have played better than their previous game and, to date, that is happening.

Kaye concluded by saying that she is 'so impressed with how the girls front up every week to multiple games – not only for AshColl but for Mid Canterbury under 15s and under 17s. They are all incredibly committed and work really hard'.

(Pictured left): Poppy Kilworth feeding the ball into GA Sophie Beveridge. Wing Defence Ella Hurley is in the Centre Third.



(Pictured right): Sammy Holden in defence mode as the Rangiora player shoots for goal. College Centre player, Grace Adams, is watching on.

Events

Life-Changing Spirit of Adventure Opportunity

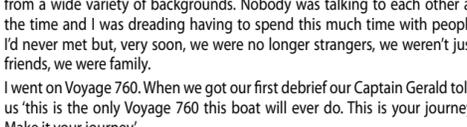
By Year 12 Student, Alex Wood

On 12 April, I had the honour of being accepted for a scholarship sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ashburton Plains to go on a ten-day development voyage on the Spirit of Adventure.

I went into this experience purposely knowing as little as possible about the trip. All I knew was that I had to be at Princess Wharf in Auckland on Tuesday 22 May and that I needed to prepare for ten days venturing around the South Pacific Ocean.

When I got to Princess Wharf, I was greeted by thirty four complete strangers from a wide variety of backgrounds. Nobody was talking to each other at the time and I was dreading having to spend this much time with people I'd never met but, very soon, we were no longer strangers, we weren't just friends, we were family.

I went on Voyage 760. When we got our first debrief our Captain Gerald told us 'this is the only Voyage 760 this boat will ever do. This is your journey. Make it your journey'.



Group photo with trainees and crew, before the voyage. Alex is back row, third from the left.

The thirty three other trainees and me set our eyes on one common goal, Great Mercury Island. Getting there meant that we had to wake up at dawn each morning, and work through the whole day utilising any wind we could get. We had a daily routine on the ship: get up at 6:30am and wake ourselves up with a warm-up and a swim in the freezing cold ocean. We would then have breakfast and meet up on the deck for a ceremony known as colours.

During colours, we would raise the New Zealand flag and ring the bell, signifying the beginning of a new day; we would find out the weather and then decide where we would try to sail that day.



A trainee on the rope swing.

The ship was divided into four main sails known as the foresail, the midship, the main, and the mizzen sail, with each trainee learning how to operate each sail over time. Once the wind died down, or we reached our destination for that day, we would set anchor and either raft over to surrounding islands, or stay on the ship.

Each day we faced new challenges: gale force winds one day, no wind at all the next. We even had to avoid sailing altogether for two whole days when one of the trainees came down with medical problems and had to be evacuated.

But, we persisted, and kept pushing through the challenges, but to no avail. We were never able to reach Great Mercury Island. However, I would still call Voyage 760 a success.

I feel this journey has helped me grow as a communicator, a leader, and as a person. I learnt the importance of self-awareness and working as a team. I made life-long friends, despite only knowing them for ten days. I regularly stepped outside of my comfort zone and did things I would never have dreamed of doing before this voyage.

Appreciation

To conclude, I would like to give my utmost thanks to the Rotary Club of Ashburton Plains for sponsoring me to go on this life-changing experience and I would like to thank the Spirit of Adventure Trust for allowing not only me, but thousands of other Kiwi students, to embark on this once-in-a-lifetime journey.



Trainees at Coromandel Cove.

Events

College Choirs Perform Well at 'The Big Sing'

On Friday 08 June, eighty two students from our two College choirs headed to Christchurch to participate in the Canterbury West Coast Regional Final of the annual *Big Sing* competition.

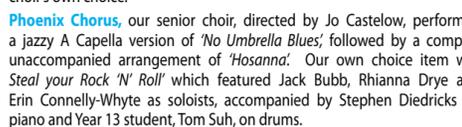
Choirs' Manager, Carolyn Clough, tells us that *The Big Sing* is New Zealand's oldest and most successful secondary schools' choral competition. This year, more than 10,000 singers from 250 schools have taken part throughout the country, and the adjudicators will select twenty four choirs to compete in the national final in Dunedin later this year.

Choirs must perform three items at *The Big Sing*. The first is to be a New Zealand composition or arrangement, the second is a Choral Art song written especially for choir or vocal ensemble, and the third is an item of the choir's own choice.

Phoenix Chorus, our senior choir, directed by Jo Castelow, performed a jazzy A Capella version of 'No Umbrella Blues', followed by a complex unaccompanied arrangement of 'Hosanna'. Our own choice item was *Steal your Rock 'N' Roll* which featured Jack Bubb, Rhianna Drye and Erin Connelly-Whyte as soloists, accompanied by Stephen Diedericks on piano and Year 13 student, Tom Suh, on drums.

Phoenix Rising, our junior choir, directed by Angela Cresswell, performed the nostalgic 'Blue Smoke' featuring a solo in Māori by senior Choral Leader, Ocean Waitokia. The next item was the beautiful 'Die Nachtigall' (The Nightingale) which added an extra challenge for the choir as it is sung in German, followed by 'What I Did For Love'. These items were accompanied by Stephen Diedericks on piano.

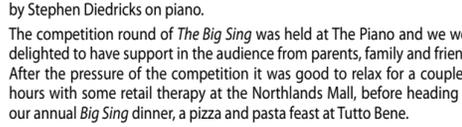
The competition round of *The Big Sing* was held at The Piano and we were delighted to have support in the audience from parents, family and friends. After the pressure of the competition it was good to relax for a couple of hours with some retail therapy at the Northlands Mall, before heading for our annual *Big Sing* dinner, a pizza and pasta feast at Tutto Bene.



(Pictured above): Phoenix Rising performing in the competition round at The Piano, with Angela Cresswell conducting and Stephen Diedericks accompanying.

Evening Concert

In the evening, all of the choirs came together for a Gala Concert held in St Mary's Pro-Cathedral. Each choir performed two songs from their *Big Sing* repertoire, introduced by members of the choirs. Head Boy, Caleb Livingstone, and Choral Leader, Erin Connelly-Whyte had this honour for our choirs. Once again, we were warmly supported by parents, friends and families who made the trip from Ashburton, as well as Deputy Principal Ron Cresswell.



(Pictured above): Phoenix Chorus performing in the Gala Concert at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, with Jo Castelow conducting.

Appreciation

A huge vote of thanks must go to our talented and hard-working Musical Directors, Jo Castelow and Angela Cresswell, for all their efforts in preparing the choirs for *The Big Sing*. Thank you also to Stephen Diedericks for his amazing skill as accompanist, and to parents and families who have made this experience possible.

The College also thanks Carolyn Clough for her tireless work as Choirs' Manager, and support of the Choirs and personnel.

Next on the agenda for both choirs is a performance at the Heartland Mid Canterbury Schools' Music Festival, being held 19-21 June at the Ashburton Trust Event Centre.

Coming Events

June
16-19 Year 13 Biology Field Trip, Portobello, Otago
18 ACADS visit, Year 13 Forum
SPACPAC BizNinja, Christchurch

19 Burnside High School-Ashburton College Sports Exchange, at Ashburton

20 Board of Trustees Meeting, 7:00pm, Turret Room, Menorlue
20 ARA drop-in Information Sessions, Transition Office

22 Aoraki Secondary Schools' Girls' Football Tournament, Timaru Road Crash Day, Ashburton College

25 Attitude Presentations – all year levels, Auditorium, during College day

26 Canterbury Secondary Schools' Gymnastics, Olympia Gymnastics Sports, Wigram, Christchurch

28 ARA Institute Introduction to Nursing Information Day, Christchurch

28 eSports, Auditorium, lunchtime

29 AshColl Senior Ball, Ashburton Trust Event Centre