



Principal's Pānui

This week we have been looking at Psalm 139 and taking time to reflect on God's design. In verses 13-14 we read, "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well".

There is so much confidence in the words of King David. He does not leave any doubt as to where he has come from and the marvel of God's creation. I sometimes wonder how often we reflect or even comprehend this concept. The challenge I put to our secondary students was "what are the implications of this knowledge? What does it mean for my sense of self-worth, or ideas about who I am?"

When we know deeply who we are, who designed and loves us, it changes our perspective hugely. We are no longer reliant on any set of standards that exists in our culture; our job or skills/knowledge, body size, skin colour, social connections etc. seem insignificant when we have the confidence that we were created by God. And as King David reminds us, God's work is nothing short of wonderful.

As we head into the term break, which often takes some of the daily pressures off. I encourage you to find time to reflect on the Lord's creation. Share with each other our understanding of who God is and ask him to open our eyes to view the world and each other as he intended.

May it be a time of deepening connections with God and each other.

Ngā whakapainga (blessings).

Simon Bisseker

Tumuaki/Principal

Notices

Parent Consultation

Secondary School parent consultations for Years 7 to 13 will take place on Wednesday 8 October from 3.30 to 6.00pm. Bookings can be made on Skool Loop. Check the list below for teacher information.

Teacher	Classes
D Butler	Technology 7 - 13, Digitech 7 - 10
T Brooker	Digital Technology Yr 11 - 13, Math 9 - 10
K Strijbis	Literacy Y10 - 11, Art Yr 9 - 13
F Ward	Pathways, Art Y 7-8
H Arnold	Eng 9 - 13, Humanities 9-10, History
D Fox	Food tech 7 - 10, Drama 7 - 10, Eng 11
J Senekal	Science 7 - 11
W Cabiad	Science 9 - 10
R Proffitt	Commerce, Humanities Y 10
J Townshend	Music, Math 8, 11
E Murray	Calculus, Physics
R Nelson	Biology, Yr 78
A Gilbert	F Tech 11 - 13, Yr 78
T Dunn	PE Health

Year 0-6 Walk Throughs

When: Wednesday 8th October

Time: Two sessions 3.30-5pm and 5.45 - 7pm

Who: Parents and **Students**

Where: Own classrooms

These are NOT interviews and students need to be at the walkthroughs. This is an opportunity for students to guide whānau through their rooms, looking at their books and learning that is displayed.

From the Board

The election process and voting for our Parent Representatives has now been completed and the results are:

Cam Wilson	74
Limbanazo Kapindula	56
Joyce Stowell	55
Sylvia Van den Berg	47

Contact details: Box 632. 119 Albert Street. P 03-3076340. E office@acs.school.nz

Links: [ACS Parent Handbook](#) [Direct Debit Form for Attendance Dues](#) W <http://www.acs.school.nz>

Harry Stanway	33
Janine Lee	32
Abe Coulter	24
Pieter Swanepoel	10
Vuli Bebenisala Meteka	3

The following are duly elected as our new Parent Representatives: Cam Wilson, Limbanazo Kapindula, Joyce Stowell, and Sylvia Van den Berg.

We thank them for their willingness to contribute to our school in this way.

Y11-12 Art Day

Tuesday 30 September, 9:30-2:30 pm (second week of school holidays) exclusively for **L1 and 2 Art and Photography students** will be completing assessment work as an Art workshop. Mrs Strijbis will arrive at school by 9am and lock up all doors by 3pm before returning to Christchurch. Mrs Strijbis will supply lunch for the students.

Purpose: students will focus on completing work for submission in Term 4 and External Moderation of Photography process in sketchbooks for 2:2. I will be uploading files to our 2025 School Assessment Folder while they work on completing folios.

Art & Technology Expo

Monday, 13 October, 1:30-3:30 pm Room 19-20

Exhibition of Y 7-12 Art and Photography (including folios) and items from second semester Visual Art & Technology classes. Classes will be invited to view in the afternoon and parents after school.

Cluster Athletics Day – Save the Date!

We are excited to announce that our **Cluster Athletics Day** will be held at **Rakaia School** on **Tuesday, 14 October (Term 4, Week 2)** for all **Year 0–8 students**.

More details will be shared closer to the day, but we wanted to give families an early heads-up:

- **Transport:** Please note that **parents will need to arrange transport for their children to and from Rakaia School**, as we will **not be using public transport**.
- **Whānau Welcome:** Parents and caregivers are warmly invited to join us and cheer on our athletes.

Thank you for marking your calendars—we're looking forward to a fun and active day together.

Free Trampolines

We are in the process of removing the tramps from our school grounds. There are 2 x frames available free to anyone who may be interested. Please contact the office.

Trampoline Update

Unfortunately these holidays we will be removing the much loved and used trampolines off our school site. Over the course of the past two years they have been subjected to repeated and ongoing vandalism out of school hours. We have made the difficult decision to remove them as the ongoing costs of replacing the mats cannot be maintained. We know this will be disappointing for many of our children.

Missing IT Equipment

The following items have gone missing from our IT department. If your child has accidentally brought any of these items home, could you please return them to school.

Apple Wireless Mouse



Apple Keyboard



Lost Property

The lost property bin is located behind the back door of the admin building, and you're welcome to check it at any time.

ACS Netball Fundraiser

We're excited to share another fundraising opportunity with you! Your support would mean a lot to us - simply share this information with your social media networks, colleagues, and loved ones. All funds raised will help with purchasing new balls, bibs, bags, as well as attending tournaments.

<https://pepperandme.co.nz>



PEPPER & me

Fundraising Programme

Simply use the code

FUNDACS25

and 20% of all sales using the code will be donated to support

Ashburton Christian School - Netball

At checkout please use the code above. Valid from 01/09/25 to 21/09/25. Excludes Pepper Post.

Fundraising made delicious!

This is your code

Check us out at
pepperandme.co.nz

Congratulations

In August Jubilee Siatu'u and Falevalu Semisi competed in Tavaga Tautalaga Ile Gagana Samoa F.A.G.A.S.A Aoao 2025. The Tavaga Tautalaga is a speech competition that was part of the Fa'asilasilaga (celebration) for Samoa Language Week in 2025. The theme for 2025 was 'A well-ground self, is a successful self'. We are excited to announce that both Jubilee and Falevalu were placed 1st place in their respective age groups – Jubilee Year 5, Falevalu Year 12.



This past weekend, 14th September, Tessa Jordaan attended Mainland Netball's Advanced Camp. In order to attend this camp Mainland Netball (Canterbury area) have selectors watching throughout

the netball season, in order to identify talented netball players. From this camp our talent spotting panel will select 15 players to attend the National Development Camp (NDC), run by NNZ. These 15 players will then be on the Netball New Zealand pathway.



Theo Parker and Toby Bisseker also presented their speeches at the Rotary Speech Finals.

Upcoming Dates

19 September	End of Term 3
24 September	Hakatere Science Fair (select students)
30 September	Year 11-12 Art Day
6 October	Start of Term 4
8 October	Walkthroughs/Interviews
13 October	Art & Technology Expo
14 October	Cluster Athletics
27 October	Labour Day (Public Holiday)
28-31 October	Year 0-4 Swimming (Rooms 7, 6, 5 & 4)
29 October	Year 11-13 Prizegiving
31 October	Year 11-13 last day at school before NCEA exams
4 November	NCEA exams start ACS Board Meeting, 7pm
10-12 November	Year 10-12 Tramp
13 November	Teacher Only Day (no school)
14 November	Canterbury Anniversary Day (public holiday)

Community Notices

COMMUNITY dental service



Tips for Healthy Teeth

- Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste
- Choose healthy snacks,
- Choose water or milk first,
- Have regular dental check-ups

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

The Community Dental Service will be closed for the upcoming school holidays

Closed from: Friday 19th September,
Reopening on: Monday 6th October.

Six of our community dental clinics will be open during this School Holiday period:

Aranui (240 Breezes Road)
Burnside (96a Memorial Avenue)
Kaiapoi (65 Raven Quay)
Hornby (2 Hei Hei Road)
Ashburton (38 Elizabeth Street)
Timaru (18 Woolcombe Street)

If your child is experiencing any dental pain/discomfort, you can call us on 0800 846 983 and/or email: comm dental@cdbh.health.nz and one of our clinicians will contact you.



Mid Canterbury Schools Trampoline Competition

Sunday 9th November 2025
EA Networks Centre, River Terrace, Ashburton
Entry Fee: \$10 per person

Eligibility to enter: be a pupil of any Canterbury School/ Home school. No requirement to be club affiliated

See the attached sheet for all information

dynamicgymnsports@gmail.com

SCHOOLS CHALLENGE

TEAMS OF 3-5 RIDERS

Don't Miss It 30TH NOV 2025

\$20 PER STUDENT Year 5-8 STUDENTS 12 KM COURSE

Register now at longbeachcoastalchallenge.com

Ashburton A&P Show

CALF SECTION

1st November 2025

★ Bring Your Calf to the A&P Show! ★
Calling all young farmers and animal lovers!
The Calf Section at our A&P Show is the place to be!
With classes for kids from under 5s to 17-year-olds, there's something for everyone - whether you're showing off your calf, getting creative in the Fancy Dress Class, or competing for the chance to win an awesome bike!

www.ashburtonshow.co.nz
Enter Online

ASHBURTON A&P ASSOCIATION INC. 1972

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH Ashburton Library

LEGENDS Brick Club

Empowering neurodivergent young people aged 10-18—building creativity, confidence, and community, one brick at a time.

What to Expect:

Safe space Small Groups with a friendly facilitator	Connection Meet new friends and connect	Collaboration Build incredible Lego creations together	Creativity Unleash your imagination

FROM 15TH OCTOBER 2025
3:30 PM
ASHBURTON LIBRARY

This is a FREE programme.
Spaces are LIMITED!
Contact us early to secure your spot

Facilitated by: María Excudero
<https://events.humanitix.com/legends-brick-club> library@adc.govt.nz

ACS COMMUNICATION

THREE IMPORTANT REMINDERS

1. Our **MAIN FORM** of school communication is through the **SKOOL LOOP** app.
2. It's important to be subscribed to **ALL** the correct groups for your child/ren.
3. Our **NEWSLETTER** (posted on Skool Loop weekly) has **ALL RELEVANT** upcoming school event information

- **HOW TO GET SKOOL LOOP**

Skool Loop is a free app that is available for Android and IOS and can be downloaded from Google Play or the App store.



- **SUBSCRIBE TO ALL APPLICABLE GROUPS**

For example:

A Year 4 student in Mrs Williams class would need to be subscribed to:

- Whole school
- Primary School (Years 1-6)
- Room 4 Mrs Williams (Yr3/4)

OR

A Year 10 student who is also part of ACS Netball and the Pilgrim Production would need to subscribe to the following:

- Whole school
- Secondary School (Years 7-13)
- Room 10 – Mrs Senekal (Y10)
- ACS Netball 2024
- Pilgrim Production 2024

If you are unsure what groups are right for you, please contact the school office.

****** You would need to *reselect the correct groups at the beginning of every school year.*

School is a busy place, and we don't want you to miss out!

Please contact us for any assistance or further queries.
office@acs.school.nz or 03 307 6340.