

*“Growing together for Success”*



# ASHGROVE SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2016



*Our Mission Statement:*

*“To provide a quality education in a positive environment which encourages learning for life”*



Growing Together For Success

# ASHGROVE SCHOOL

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## **Board of Trustees Chairperson ANNUAL REPORT for Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

2016 provided the children, staff, Principal and the Board of Trustees of Ashgrove School with a year of quality learning and personal development for all those involved.

Physical changes at Ashgrove School have taken place this year as we complete the Modern Learning Environment building to be ready for the start of the New Year. This has meant a reduced school site and the challenges that come with ensuring there was enough room for the children to play and be active while the building programme was underway. The Education Review Office completed their review and report early 2016 and it was encouraging confirmation that we continue to be a school focused on, on-going improvement and meeting or exceeding many of the requirements of the new review format.

There have been many highlights throughout the year that have supported our children's learning. Our school camps to Hanmer Springs were a great way to commence the year and encouraged learning, friendships, participation and personal development.

Ashgrove School students in 2016 continued to enjoy the swim programme of which the parents and teachers highly value, given the importance of this life skill, and promoting being active. We recognise and thank the many groups working together to make this possible; Mainpower community sponsorship, Wai Swim Coaching and Ashgrove School PTA working to bring a quality programme together that is affordable for the parents.

Our Junior Tipu Team had a great day visiting the Art Gallery and Imagination Station and enjoying the new sights of Christchurch.

Ashgrove School continues to offer Safe Cycling to our Middle School students which along with our local Police / Teachers / Parents ensures and encourages the safety of our students whilst biking.

We partnered with Waimakariri District Council Libraries on a membership drive and looked at how the digital age has changed libraries and the many services and activities that modern libraries offer to their customers.

A fun day was held as our school dressed up as their favourite book character and had a parade as part of a day's celebration of books. The whole school participated in a House Competition Book Quiz naming books and characters of popular stories.

The Potato Growing competition involved the whole school and was a huge success encouraging students to be involved in growing and eating their own food.

Ashgrove Schools Value Badges are highly sought after and the students work towards achieving these rewards by being responsible Ashgrove and community citizens while putting into action our core values - Service, Trust, Attitude and Respect.

Our Kapahaka group held successful performances at interschool meets and performed at other events in the community throughout the year. This year for the first time 60 performers represented our school at the Horncastle Arena at the Kapahaka Festival.

The following week at Kids for Kids our Junior Choir also performed at the Horncastle Arena. Both groups performed to a high standard and everyone enjoyed the experience.

Our senior school students were challenged with mountain biking and a trip to Adrenalin Forest at Spencer Park where their boundaries were pushed and extended in an enjoyable day out.

The bi-annual elections for Board of Trustee representatives were completed in June. Ashgrove School went to election as more nominations were received than positions available. The school is very fortunate to continue to have a good representation of parents prepared to put in extra effort and time to ensure quality governance of the school. The Board remains strong and focused going forward into 2017.

We finally have our new class block and look forward to the removal of the old prefabs and the reinstatement of the school grounds. Ongoing landscaping will continue throughout 2017. The long awaited new senior playground is in the design stage and eagerly awaited by the students in the senior school, along with the replacement full size netball court.

No other property projects have been completed 2016 apart from scheduled maintenance.

We look forward to welcoming the Allenvale families into their new learning spaces in the Modern Learning Environment in Term One 2017.

The teachers have been preparing and developing the modern learning approach. We have had parent evenings where we have explained the modern learning practice and this year had an open day where parents could come and view modern learning in action so they could gain a better understanding of how this was being implemented.

Positive behaviour for learning is one of the keys for success within the Modern Learning Environment. Our teachers continue to encourage a positive and respectful culture in the classroom to ensure positive learning and growth occurs in the new learning spaces.

We continue to be proactive in ensuring our parents have access to our school documents and policies and procedures. Our school newsletter encourages our parents to read these on our website so they can be better informed.

We facilitated a Hui at Ashgrove School on the 8<sup>th</sup> June as part of our community consultation about education and our children's well-being. As part of our communication and consultation practices, Ashgrove School has implemented a School App to enable instant communication with parents. Parents can opt into specific team alerts and have full school information on their cell

phone. This app was made available in response to parents requesting better communication from the school.

To make life easier for parents when paying school payments Ashgrove School was excited to introduce the Wrap It Up payment system on line, which gives parents control of their children's school account. With this in mind parents can now track all their payments.

Another change for those interested is being able to order online lunches from February 2017, through our food provider which offers healthy choices, along with some treat options. [www.lunchonline.co.nz](http://www.lunchonline.co.nz)

Our Enviro team continue to do an amazing job of educating our children on how to be responsible with waste and the enviro garden area is going from strength to strength and is a real credit to those involved.

In 2016 we continued our careful and tight financial management and our accounts have been audited 2016 and reflect a true and correct financial position.

Audited Financial accounts will form part of this report and should confirm the above.

Despite being on the positive side of the balance sheet for 2016 it is difficult and challenging to provide the quality of education expected by our parent community. We cannot enforce school donations and insufficient financial resources are provided by the Ministry of Education in ICT and special needs assistance to help children strive for success in today's modern learning environments.

Our education system needs to be reviewed and updated for modern times as the forefathers that put our original system in place (free education) while full of good intentions had no way of seeing the changes of our society and the associated costs of bringing a child through the education system in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. As difficult as this may be the conversation regarding the cost of education and who pays needs to be had by those in positions to make changes to take us forward in the future.

The Board of Trustees continues to maintain a governance role to ensure the smooth running of our school. Our members continue to up-skill their knowledge with current skill based courses to enhance their roles. The board embraces through this personal development the Maori Cultural Responsiveness Hautu Self Review process and is continuing along this pathway to ensure personal and professional improvement and cultural awareness.

## **Reports on Student Achievement:**

### **Academic Achievement:**

**Art** – We had success in the A & P Royal Show. Medals for outstanding work were won with a class mural and an individual pencil design. We also had work exhibited in the Kaiapoi Art Expo.

**Canterbury Social Studies Quiz** – 4 teams competed with the top team gaining 15<sup>th</sup> place.

**Canterbury Spelling Quiz** – We had 4 teams in this at and the best team finished in the top 10 against 80 teams.

**Chess** – We had a team in the North Canterbury Chess competition.

**Debating** – We had 2 teams in the North Canterbury Debating competition and one team advanced to the quarter finals before getting knocked out.

**ICAS testing** – 2 Distinctions in Science, 1 Distinction in Writing, 1 Distinction in Maths, 2 Distinctions in Spelling, 1 High Distinctions and 2 Distinctions in English

**Literacy Quiz** – Our team competed in the Canterbury Quiz at Cobham.

**Maths** – We had Year 7 & 8 Cantamaths teams in the North Canterbury and Christchurch competitions.

3 students achieved Excellence in University of Otago Problem Solving Challenge.

### **Sporting Success:**

**Athletics** – We had a large team of students who were very successful at Rakahuri Zones and qualified for the Canterbury Championships at Ashburton where we had two 1<sup>st</sup> placings and two 3<sup>rd</sup> placings.

**Basketball** – Ashgrove Girls team won the Canterbury Indoor Tournament.

**Cricket** – Our girls team were the Canterbury Country champions and competed in the South Island tournament at Hagley Park finishing 4<sup>th</sup> place.

**Cross country** – Ashgrove was well represented at Zones and six seniors made the Intermediate team for Canterbury Championships.

**Hockey** – One team made it to the Canterbury Sports Championship.

**Netball** – Netball A made it to the Canterbury Championship final. The Year 5/6 Netball team also won the Canterbury Championship final.

**Orienteering** - We had a strong team of runners who gained several 2<sup>nd</sup>'s and 3<sup>rd</sup>'s in the Canterbury Championships. The school finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the team competition

**Ski-ing** – Our ski team competed in the Canterbury Championships at Craigieburn Ski field. Best placing 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Swimming** – We had eight swimmers who won at Zones at Dudley Pool and made the finals at the Canterbury Championships at Rolleston.

**Volleyball** – Ashgrove were 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in the Canterbury Indoor Tournament.

### **Other Resources:**

The Board, management and staff would like to acknowledge and thank the ongoing and continued valuable contribution that the Parent Teacher's Association (PTA) made to our school during the 2016 year.

The PTA continues to actively fundraise for the benefit of all of our children at Ashgrove School. Some of the funds raised were held to contribute towards the physical enhancement of the school grounds 2017, swimming lessons, and sports, the teachers Wish List budget, and other items to help the staff and the school function to its best ability. The PTA also gives \$50 per teacher to spend on classroom resources.

As a long-term project, the PTA continues to fundraise to support the upgrading of the senior playground.

A significant major fundraiser for 2016 was the Restyle Me Fashion event for the ladies of North Canterbury. This was a very successful night and a lot of fun had by all.

The signature fundraiser for Ashgrove School is the 'Santa's Grotto' and Summer Gala – The Rangiora Business Promotions again supported Ashgrove School to hold this community event. Santa's Grotto is a huge undertaking by a dedicated team of parents which takes most of the year to plan, organize and execute. The Board sincerely thank the PTA and the sub-committees for their dedicated hard work that makes the Santa's Grotto a huge success every year.

The Board of Trustees would like to thank its many sponsors, and helpers that put together this community event. This support helps raise the funds that enable us to put better educational opportunities in front of our children and meet the expectations of our parent community.

The Board, management and staff would also like to acknowledge and thank the many parents, grandparents and other friends and family of the wider Ashgrove community for their assistance both in the classroom and outside the classroom with camps, sporting activities, Kapahaka, Cantamaths, debating, chess and all other aspects of school life, where they have given up their time and given expertise to our children.

This assistance helps with the School's Mission Statement – To provide a quality education in a positive environment which encourages learning for life. Raising the children's achievement levels and understanding of the wider community, benefits us all.

2017 is an exciting time for Ashgrove School as we celebrate our **'50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary' to be held on Labour Weekend 2017**. Our dedicated subcommittee of past staff and students are working hard towards making this a successful celebration to showcase our school from the beginning in 1967 to where we are today.

**Statement of Responsibility:**

The Board of Trustees has pleasure in presenting the annual report of Ashgrove School, incorporating the financial statements and the auditor's report, for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

The Board accepts responsibility for the preparation of the annual financial statements and the judgments used in these statements.

The management (including the principal and others as directed by the Board) accepts responsibility for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of the school's financial reporting.

In the opinion of the Board and management, the annual financial statements for the financial year fairly reflect the financial position and operations of the school.

The school's 2016 financial statements are authorised for issue by the Board Chairperson and Principal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Members of the Board of Trustees

Name	Position	How position on Board gained	Occupation	Term Expired/Expires
Evan Connor	Parent Rep. Chairperson	Co-opted June 2016	Building Inspector	Resigned February 2017
Mecca Hampton-James	Vice Chairperson	Elected June 2013	Teacher	June 2016
Mike McKellow	Parent Rep	Elected June 16	Detective	December 2016
Grant Hetherington	Parent Rep	Elected November 2014	Manager	November 2017
Jennifer Kirkwood	Parent Rep	Elected November 2014	Mother	November 2017
Philippa Flutey	Parent Rep	Co-opted November 2014	HR Consultant	Resigned February 2016
Ellanna Cliff	Parent Rep	Elected June 2016	Senior HR Consultant	June 2019
Gary Stevenson	Parent Rep	Co-opted July 2016	Engineer	November 2017
Brodie McDonald	Parent Rep	Elected June 2016	Senior Financial Consultant	June 2019
Christine Chadwick	Principal	Appointed May 2007	Principal	Ongoing
Andrea Woolford	Staff Rep	Elected June 2016	Teacher	June 2019
Pam Batchelor	Staff Rep	Elected May 2013	Teacher	May 2016

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the year ended 31 December 2016

These can be found in the financials and Auditors report. This will be forwarded directly by the Auditors once completed.

Evan Connor  
Chairperson Board of Trustees