

Kia ora whānau

Welcome to Term 4. It was great to get back and to see all the children again who have started the term so positively. As we say every year we have a busy term ahead of us starting off with **whole school athletics** which is on next week. Please note the correct date for this is **Wednesday 21st October**. This will be the last year we run this as a whole school event as our junior school numbers have increased so much that the group sizes heading around each activity are large and to run an event in the 25 minute allocation when there are groups of 25 or more little people is a big ask. In the future the Year 1-3 group will have their athletics day here at school - on an alternate day to the Year 4-8 so that if you have children in both you have the option to attend both.

For athletics day the children can come in **whānau house colours**...please see the graphic for colour options. If you are unsure what house your child is in then please ask them first and then their teacher.



ASHLEY RAKAHURI SCHOOL ATHLETIC SPORTS
Year 1 - 8

WHEN: Wednesday 21st OCTOBER 2026 PP Thursday 22nd October
 WHERE: LOBURN DOMAIN

Our aim is to have a wonderful sporting event involving the whole school competing in their year groups in the full range of athletic events.

Students from Year 5 and above, will be working towards entry to the **North Canterbury Athletics** event to be held on Tuesday 3rd November (PP Wed 4th Nov).

ORGANISATION:

- Buses will transport all students to Loburn Domain, leaving Ashley Rakahuri School at 9.50am.
- All children must take their bags with lunch, drink, sunblock and warm clothing.
- Ashley Rakahuri School athletic sports will begin at 10.30am with students doing rotations of 25 minutes in their year groups, until 2.00pm.
- There will be no lunch break due to house relays
- House relays at the end of field and track events at about 2.15pm.
- 2.30pm pack up area, leave in cars and buses.
- Please let your child's teacher know in week 1 if you will be taking your child home after the athletics at 2.30pm. This saves on the return bus cost.
- Parents and spectators can watch sprints and long distance races from behind the fence along the front of the field, and beside the shed by the long distance starting point - this is where children will spectate from as well.
- If parents wish to go and see field events, they must go via the marked ends of the field, AROUND THE MARKED CORNERS for the long distance, ensuring that they are not interfering with any event.
- ROTATION ORDER: Groups will spend 25 minutes at each station so from this parents should be able to work out where children will be at each rotation.

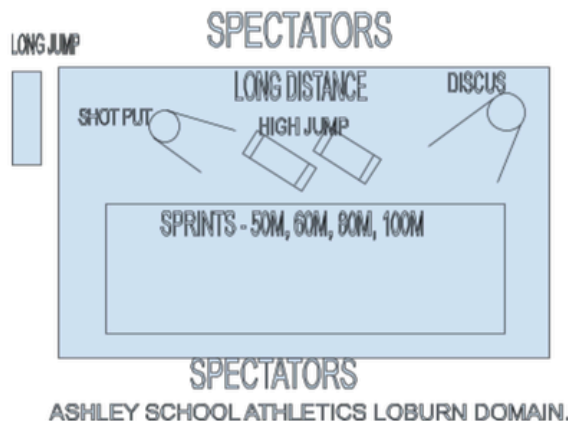
- SPRINTS
- SPECTATE SPRINTS
- LONG JUMP
- SHOT PUT
- HIGH JUMP
- LONG DISTANCE / HURDLES
- SPECTATE DISTANCE
- DISCUS
- HOUSE RELAYS

YEAR 0/1
 YEAR 8
 YEAR 7
 YEAR 6
 YEAR 5
 YEAR 4
 YEAR 3
 YEAR 2

We are looking forward to a fantastic day where everyone can show their athletic prowess and spectators can encourage and support the athletes.

REMINDER: Please don't forget to let your child's teacher know in WEEK ONE if you will be taking your child home after the athletics at 2.30pm.

Come along and enjoy the fun! Parent helpers/Parent relay runners are needed so please let John Lynskey know if you can help out by eMailing him at: j.lynskey@ashleyrakahuri.school.nz



An Update From STEM Club in Term 3 Mrs Jenny Layton



The playground fundraiser was a big focus last term, and the STEM Club joined in by designing and making a piece of playground equipment they would like to see at our school if the fundraising dream was achieved.

With many other commitments throughout the term, we had an ever-changing group of children joining us on Monday during the last break of the day to bring their playground ideas to life.

Well done to all those tamariki who persevered when designing and making proved challenging. You showed our REACH value of by keeping going and trying different solutions.

This term, we look forward to our new STEM Club focus: We will be exploring celebrations from different cultures and using our creativity, problem-solving and STEM skills to design and create.

We are looking forward to lots of fun, making and learning together!



Cultural Leadership - Term 3
Mrs Rochelle Standen

The Ruataniwha Kapa haka performance occurred on Friday Sept 4. It was a chance for our Kapa haka group to perform and show all the wonderful learning and all the hard mahi they have put into learning their waiata, waiata ā ringa, and haka.

All the tamariki definitely shone during the performance. Thank you to all the whānau members who came along to support us. A big wero - or challenge for our rōpū this term is learning our new Waiata ā ringa - traditional Māori action song. Toro Mai is composed by Tā Kīngi Matutaera Ihaka. It is a welcoming and unifying song used to reach out and connect with whānau and manuhiri (visitors) The song also expresses deep love (*te aroha*) and remembrance for ancestors and those who have passed on (*kua ngaro i te pō*).



With the fundraising that was done in term 1 with the Easter Raffle and a grant that we received through the eagle eye and hard work of Victoria Gascoyne, the Kapa haka rōpū have begun to add to our Kakahu/uniform we have added Tīpare: A traditional headband or brow band, sometimes featuring matching tāniko patterns or feather accents. We have also begun outfitting the group with Piupiu: A traditional waist-to-knee skirt made from flax (or modern synthetic/fabric alternatives), - this is a long term goal which will be achieved over the next few years as it is an expensive lofty goal.

At the end of Term 4 on Sunday the 29th of November at 2:30pm our Rōpū will get to participate at the Tūhono Kapa haka Festival in Christchurch at the Town Hall. It will showcase all the hard work that the tamariki and our Amazing tutors Matua Norm and Bonnie have put in throughout the whole year.

Mihi Whakatau

Please come along if you can to welcome our 12 new tamariki and their whānau to our kura.

When: Friday 16th October 9am in the school hall

Calendar of Events

21st October Whole School Athletics

22nd October pp Whole School Athletics

26th October SCHOOL CLOSED - Labour Day

6th November - Gumboot Friday

13th November Canterbury Show Day Holiday

20th November Cultural Celebration Day

29th November Tūhono Kapa Haka Competition (note correct date)

9th December Year 8 Leavers Dinner

11th December - Hotdogs/Non Uniform Day - Christmas

14th December - Whole School Prizegiving

16th December - Last Day of Term 4 (note change of day)

1st February Whānau hui

2nd February School Opens For Instruction

8th February - Monday-ised Waitangi Day Holiday