

**ASHBROOK PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

**50TH
JUBILEE**

1959 - 2009

APRIL 10th, 11th, 12th

SUCCESS THROUGH HONOUR AND ENDEAVOUR"

Acknowledgements

The Ashbrook Jubilee committee gratefully acknowledges the contributions and invaluable assistance from the following:

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1XX Bulletin Board

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Plus the many local businesses and organisations that have supported the school with the distribution of registration forms.

We would also like to acknowledge all those who have contributed to this 50th jubilee either through their background assistance or simply through attending or providing towards this event.

Thank you also to everyone who helped to make this publication a success or contributed photos and memories.

It had been our intention to compile an index of Deputy Principals, STJC/Assistant principals, teachers, ancillary staff and caretakers, but due to missing logbooks and records we were unable to compile comprehensive lists therefore excluding them altogether.

We would like to acknowledge all our kaumatua who have provided support and guidance with karakia and tikanga maori Nga mihi tino nui ki a koutou, e nga rangatira, e kawea nei i nga tikanga ki roto i a matou tamariki me te kura whanaui hoki.



Ashbrook School Haka - Papatewhai

Kaea: Ko wai ra ko wai ra
Roopu: Ko Papatewhai e ngunguru nei I au au aue haa
Ko Papatewhai e tangi nei I au au aue ha I a ha ha
Ka titiro au ki taku maunga teitei
Maungarangi e tu nei
Ka rere atu nga Roimata ki te awa Otara e
Ka tae ki te Wharekaahu ki Ohui ki Oama
Ki te Kura o Papatewhai
Te Whenua Hauora o te Iwi
Ka puta ki te moana ki te motu Whakaari e
I au au aue ha
Hi

Leader: Who is this who is this?
Group: It is Papatewhai who prances sprightly.
It is Papatewhai who cries
I gaze toward my erect Mountain
Maungarangi stand aloft
Your tears flow like the Otara River
Arriving in the valley of Wharekaahu, to Ohui, to Oama
Then to Ashbrook
Through the land of the people, rich in medicinal foliage
Finally to merge in the great ocean toward Whakaari.

Composed by R & RR Mitai for the tamariki
of Ashbrook School Papatewhai.

Papatewhai- The original name given by local tribes for the area before pre-constabulary

settlement took place. The area was rich in medicinal medicine trees and plants.

Maungarangi- is a Mountain peak in the back blocks of Te Waiti/Tutaetoko belonging to the people of Ngatingahere.

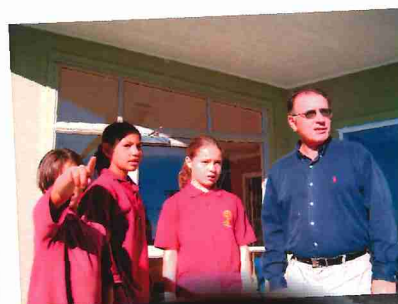
Wharekaahu- The Otara Valley

Ohui and **Oama**- The lower end of the valley near Magpie Park near Terere Marae.

Whakaari- Far-reaching to White Island.

Researched History as told by Hate Pirihi to Teriaki Amoamo, Pera Williams.





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Ashbrook School Jubilee. *1959 to 2009.*

A warm welcome to our school jubilee on behalf of the children, staff and Board of Trustees. Ashbrook School opened in 1959 on part of what was then the Ashbrook farm estate. A brook that used to run through the boundary of the block plus the ash trees in the school grounds gave rise to its name. The Maori name for the area was Papa-te-Whai. According to local kaumatua the area was rich in trees and plants used for medicine. A monumental battle is also said to have taken place in the area but no one is quite sure who this was between. The name Papa-te-Whai, we have adopted as the Maori name for our school.

Ashbrook strives to promote a warm, caring environment where everyone feels valued and recognised, and there is a strong commitment to the welfare and well-being of children. Our professional staff is concerned with the development of the whole child, and high standards of behaviour and academic achievement are actively encouraged. We believe that education reflects the past and is nurtured by all.

"Ehara taku toa I te toa takitahi engari he toa takatini."

"I come not with my own strengths but bring with me the gifts, talents and strengths of my whanau, iwi and Tupuna."

The provision of challenging work at the right level for each child helps to raise their self-esteem and gives them the opportunity to experience success and satisfaction. We feel that this positive approach to education is important, as it encourages the right attitudes, motivation and a real love for learning.

The school also recognises the importance of establishing good relationships with parents and the wider community, as it is by working together that the children's best interests are served.

We are truly proud of our school, a place where everyone is valued and everyone counts. A jubilee is a time of celebration and rejoicing. Cherish your jubilee, may it truly be Golden. This Easter is a time to let your friendships bloom.

"The best mirror is an old friend."

--George Herbert

Kind Regards, Graeme Gandy.



"The Last 25 Year's" (1984 – 2009)

"The Last 25 Years" (1984-2009)

I was given the task of recording the main events of the last 25 years – or since the last Jubilee. What a mammoth task! We have been through 3 Principals, 5 BOT Chairs, numerous teaching staff and hundreds of students. There have been major building projects and countless teacher-pupil endeavours, - so there is no way I could capture them all. [Plus I didn't arrive at Ashbrook until 1987! And the school Log books have gone missing!] Feel free to add to the timeline your favourite memories.

1959 >>>>

1987 Principal Doug Dent. Roll 194. Tony Goonan DP. Class of 40. Edgecombe earthquake Goal posts sold to Sub Union. EOTC. Rifle safety at Willie Maxwell's. Tauranga Stream hike. Yr8 trip to Turangi in August. Hydro Study. Calf Club, Farm Safety Day, Flower Show, Gala. (All strongly supported.) Senior end of year EOTC- tramp over the range from Ohora Hut to the Waimana Ranger Station.

1988 Principal Don Ferguson. Cyclone Bola. Boulders Camp (The first). Hangi – "The Bear" and the fire engine! High fence around pool (1/6) New Image Rugby, Fashion Parade at the College, Yr8 trip to Wellington (flew from Whakatane.) End of year camps at Whitianga and Te Kumi.

1989 Dennis Nault arrived, Canadian exchange for DP. Trip to the snow for senior students. Heather Newell AP

1990 Boulders Camp in February. Yr8 off to Wellington for the week. Plane/train. End of year EOTC, Tramp Whakatane River to Waimana Ranger Station. Kara Dobie, Lillian Stuart and Sheldon Reid join the staff.

1991 Feb. camp at Ohope (Fergs) and later at Roimata. . Mrs. Roe's production "Oliver". Whole school visit to Omarumutu. Staff go to see "Les Miserables" in Auckland. School Hall (in parts) arrive from Edgecombe. (18/7) Yr8 trip to Ruapehu. (23/9) End of year camps at Roimata, Hokianga and Ohiwa Holiday Camp.

1992 March camp at the Girl Guides (Waioeka Gorge). Mahi Tahī – kayaks. School hall erected. John Peterson builder. Lots of voluntary help. Toka and Red- the strong silent types! Lots of hangi fund raisers. Yr8 Auckland trip. (Flew from Rotorua- train back.). End of year camps; 140 kids to Waikaremoana. Remember Frank?

1993 Fitness circuit, thanks to Alex Edwards. Two new classrooms arrive. (25/2) March – Ohiwa Camps; yachts (Pat Smylie). Production "The Mikaido". Senior trip to Ruapehu in September. End of year camp at Potaka. Richard Mitai & Roimata Williams join the staff.

1994 Boulders Camps in February. Japanese visitor/student (Akiko). Yr8 trip to Wellington in October. (Plane down from Rotorua- train back.) Kuta kids tagged along. December EOTC tramped from Waiotape over to Te Urewera. Lions Hut. Tony Howe joins the staff.

1995 Beach safety and Ohiwa Camps in Feb-March. Production: "Sound of Music" in June. Lots of fund raising- firewood and raffles. Senior trip to Christchurch. Major break-in, in main office. End of year EOTC to Roimata and Hokianga. Remember the "Lady Marg"?
Margie Hunt joins the staff.

1996 Whole school- bus trip to Te Kaha for the day. (300 kids, x4 buses and a heap of cars). Our first "deportee"- Kev. Free onions – in the baths sheds! March camp at the Girl Guides. Two busloads of kids to Rotorua to watch BOP v Scotland- volcanic ash! Yr8 trip to Auckland- by bus. Stayed at Albany. End of year tramp around Waikaremoana. Jill Theobald on staff.

1997 Ohiwa Camp in February. More yachting in March. Yr8 trip to the Far North – by bus- in November. EOTC end of year camps at Omaio, Te Kaha, Waihou Bay and Cape Runaway.

1998 Boulders Camp in Feb. Lots of fund raising: wood, hay, fencing, painting, planting – basically, if you want it done- we will volunteer! Yr8 Trip to the Gold Coast. Hunt's fire! Floods in Waimana. Production: "West Side Story". December EOTC- Girls to Lions Hut / boys to Whiti-
tikau.

1999 Staffroom modernized. Ohiwa camps in March. Yr8 trip to Wellington in September.(took vans down.) Mr. Ferguson resigns. Back to Ohiwa in December; senior boys on Hokianga Island.

2000 New Principal, Mr. Graeme Gandy arrives from Rotorua. EOTC camp at Girl Guides in March. Production: "Tamehana's Musical Journey".(22/6) Won the Delamere Cup. Yr8 trip to Christchurch in October.

2001 Mid school at Ohiwa in Feb – Seniors at Waiorore in March. No senior trip but one class did x3 trips to Whakatane –even got out to Whale Is.! (An "interesting" class, eh Ross!) Big "Careers" week in November. Computer Room operational.

2002 March camp at Ohiwa. New desks arrived in April. Talent Quests, Tama Dean / Search for the Stars in May-August. Te Reo night classes in staff room. Senior trip to Ruapehu-Turangi. Coral Chalmers on staff.

2003 Opape day visit. Three senior classes (93 kids) to the Agricultural Field days at Mystery Creek, Hamilton. School visit to Taneatua for a sports day. Winners of Delamere Cup also won all three sections. Last Calf Club Day at Ashbrook (15/10)

2004 EOTC camping at the Boulders and Bush Haven – Te Waiti. Kids in the Weetbix Tryathlon. Japanese visitors- hosted by School/Te Rere. Boys run from Pakahi to the wharf > new school haka. Production at Te Rere Tamehana 2. Severe flooding. Lost Don Clarke Boots to Omaru-mutu. House trees planted near bike sheds. Astro turf laid. BOP won Ranfurly Shield – it came for a brief visit. Kids win major Newspaper award. End of the year Bush camps – Lions Hut and Waikaremoana. Now a "uniform" school.

2005 Ohiwa camps in March and December.

2006 Senior classes go to Auckland. Kids win another Newspaper award \$5000. Te Waiti and Boulders Bush Camp, "Team Poacher" the deer, the pig the eel, Oops!

2007 March camps at Ohiwa. Production: Whole school, "Sign of the Seahorse" . Senior Delamere Cup invite to Secondary Regional Kapa Haka.
Teams entered in the Tauranga based "AIMS GAMES". End of year senior camps at Lottin Point.

2008 March camp for seniors at the Lions Hut and Tawhana. AIMS Games. End of year tramps at Lions Hut, Maungapohatu and Waikaremoana, Winners Butterworth Shield, Successfully defended the Don Clarke boots fourth year running.

Plus: There will be many other events past pupils will cherish. As a school, we are renowned for our involvement in all that is going on. [Leave no stone unturned / no opportunity missed.] Tryathlons, Winter Sports Days, Swimming, Softball, Hockey, Soccer, Squash, Tae kwan Do, Cricket, Touch, New Image and Rippa. Mid/Senior, Clubs and Delamere Cup, Flower Shows and Pets Days. Duffy Role models, Speech Comps both in English and Te Reo, Art Shows and Book Weeks Numerous Projects with DOC, Ambulances and Fire engines, Break-ins and Break-outs, Special guests and Assemblies, Balls and BBQs; Hip Hop and Bible Study. All have special memories and each a story. Share yours at the Jubilee.

AW Goonan DP

Why Not Events?

ASTROTURF: What is it?

Firstly, the playing surfaces of the netball courts were a danger to players when wet. The surface had a shiny film on it. Your feet slipped from under you!! Add a jackhammer to this equation. Imagine the shock horror - there were pot holes in the surface of the netball court, so.... \$63,000 later and 35 tons of sand. Ashbrook has Astroturf - multi purpose outdoor surface facility enjoyed by all.

The Goldcoast for a Year 8 trip – You're kidding!!!

How did that happen?

Some mathematically minded young men, namely Masters Easton, Armstrong, Brown and Emslie, couldn't believe the cost of travel by train, ferry, bus and walking within our own country – so they did some research for homework. After haymaking for a season, catering and various fundraising activities, they went. (Fares, accommodation and admission inclusive) Great maths' lesson.

Valuable Lesson – Why Not? We made it happen!

Form Two Ball!!

Glamorous Chicks

Glittering Lights

Sneaky Kisses!!

Delicious Food

Robin Davidson

Winners of NZ Herald Competition for Y5/6 and Y7/8 2004 and 2006

The Millennium 2000

Winners of all Netball Competitions

- Opotiki Grades
- Whakatane
- Rotorua
- Sth Waikato
- Story Cup Taupo
- All Rotorua Intermediate Schools

Team: Toni Kiri, Jamie Winiata, Bonnie Taia, Sasha Dobie, Tammy Walker, Samantha Pene, Mahora Paora, Charlie Gage. Coach Roimata Williams and Manager Margie Hunt.

Chris Wardlaw loved Ashbrook so much he biked to school daily from Waimana. Even Richard Mitai – teacher extraordinaire – sleeps there....he just loves work.

Memories

Mrs. Hunt going to pick Ngawini Ropotini up for her game – Ngawini obviously wasn't as keen as Mrs. H because she hid under the bed.

Preparing a Hangi in the back paddock – not cooked so finished it in the oven.

Margie Hunt



Memories

by Tony Howe



School/Class camps were great. I remember Mrs. Hunt on her first camp at Ashbrook, paddling across to Hokianga Island (Ohiwa) in the waka from Kutarere School. Three quarters of the way across – the waka sank. All occupants' gear got soaked. They managed to scramble safely (with all gear) onto the island.

Mr. Goonan refused to begin the Powhiri for them as they were early and the food was not ready. Those who know Mrs. Hunt can guess the reply she gave- once they were called on.

At the same camp Mr. Goonan hired an outboard motor. Travelling down the harbour, the prop hit a sand bar and the motor leaped off into the water. It could not be found. It became visible at low tide and so the very wet motor was taken back to Hokianga Island and left on the beach near the dinghy. Overnight it got stolen.

Cleaning up our camp at Waikaremoana.

A teacher, who should have been wearing her glasses, said to one of her students (Louis Robson) "Louis, please go and pick up those shoes over there."

"What shoes Miss?" replied Louis.

"Louis, hurry up, those ones by the post, just hurry up."

"But Miss" stumbled Louis.

"Hurry up, get them!" she demanded.

At this Louis walked over to the shoes. The shoes promptly stood up, quacked then flew away.

Taking swimming lessons down the Otara River. Students would swim across the river a few times then get into the serious part of the lesson. Bombing off the rocks, jumping from the willow tree and holding onto big rocks to see who could moonwalk the furthest across the river-underwater!

Delamere Cup practices with Nanny Rawinia Rangi. (We won it in 1962) She certainly did not tolerate us mucking around.

The legendary hangis Harry Shaw would put down for fundraisers or when we hosted other schools.

Mr. Jerry Warren making us sing over and over again. "To Sir with Love."

The Form 2 (Year Eight) dance. We would practise for weeks gay gordons, waltzes, maxinas etc.

The tiny library/bookroom we had is now where Noreen stores the coffee and sugar....with barely enough room for that!

Back in the 60s we never went camping. The end of year highlight was a trip to the beach or Ohiwa. One year we visited Hokianga Island (1968). We lit fires to cook pipi and cockles. When we got back to school there was a message to say that Hokianga Island was ablaze.

Paul Clay he would give me a lovely sandwich each day, to get out first at lunchtime. It always worked.

Miss Pahewa. The matriarch of Ashbrook. She knew every Whanau and so much about the students. Her gentle, caring nature impressed me greatly.

- As a student I remember...
- 1. Kevin Hennessy sometimes being late as he had trouble catching the house cows he had to milk.
- 2. Auditioning for the school choir with Mrs. Walker (principal's wife). You had to sing a few notes with the piano.
- 3. The hours of fun we had making spinning tops and the competitions that ensued at school.
- 4. Interschool sports fixtures played during the week against other schools- like Waimana and Primary.
- 5. Interhouse art/sport competitions. (Kiwi, Kaka, Tui, Weka).
- 6. Marching practice for the athletic sports. Hours spent at lunchtime perfecting the military march. Any out of time were hidden in the middle.
- 7. The school being largely surrounded by paddocks – not houses.



Miss Pahewa and the Shower Curtain

Poor Miss Pahewa! Takes her shower late at night when most people are fast asleep because she's been doing all the work at the marae. Poor Miss Pahewa! Imagine her consternation when she comes to get dressed, only to find not only had her towel disappeared but also all her clothes as well.

Down comes the plastic shower curtain and with just this wrapped around her, she sneaks back to the wharenuui.

Greeted only by silence, a list of suspects and thoughts of revenge race through her mind. But no-one will own up to this frightful deed for many a year.

Keeping Warm at Waiotapu

The coldest camp we ever went on was one freezing cold (before the days of global warming) winter at the school camp at Waiotapu, just south of Rotorua. The frosts were at least an inch thick and didn't melt till after two in the afternoons. Most of the children bunked in with their mates to keep warm and we had no problems at all with children running around outside in the middle of the night. Eric Lewis was taken to Rotorua Hospital with suspected hypothermia. The only really warm person in the whole camp was chief cook Rae Keller. She had set her bed up in the kitchen and slept with her feet in the oven.



Camp Food



We always try to have good food at school camps. After all, "a well fed camper is a happy camper,"

At one camp at the Tauranga Bridge, the dads (Robin Brown, Tom Trafford) found part of an old dozer blade and used it as a plate in a magnificent oven they constructed. They also stopped the passing milk tanker (driven by another dad, Dougie Crosswell) to get a supply of fresh milk for the kids.

The oven worked so well no-one complained (or died) from eating meat that had been 'blown' while lying exposed on the back of the truck.

Individual dishes that also rate a mention are Miss Pahewa's rice and Mrs. Pickard's Stew. The rice was in a bowl on the serving bench at Whitianga. Someone knocked it off. The bowl flipped over and flew over a metre, landing with a solid thud upside down on the floor. Miss picked it up and not one grain was spilled.

Not used as food, that rice could have been put to use as wallpaper glue or even to resole tramping boots.

Kath Pickard excitedly offered to make a stew so that we would have something to eat pretty much as soon as we arrived at camp.

It arrived a day before we departed and the huge pot was left unnoticed in the staffroom. On the morning of camp, noises coming from the pot attracted our attention to the writhing mass.

Kath's stew never actually made it to camp but, if left much longer, could probably have got there by itself.

Legends from

Graham Bowden



Extracts from Opotiki News of the first year at Ashbrook School.

March 6th 1959

First general meeting:

Attended by over 70 parents. Mr. Laybourn occupied the chair for the first part of the meeting. Election of Officers took place.

President: Mrs. J Caves

Vice President: Mr. R Knox

Secretary/Treasurer: Mrs. P Perry

At the end of the meeting Mr. Laybourn apologised for the lack of supper because the school did not possess any crockery yet.

April 1959

A successful sports day and gala meant the following were purchased:

floor polisher, sewing machine, daylight screen, film strip projector and sufficient cups and saucers for serving refreshments.

A delicious home-made supper was served by the ladies and a pleasant social time was enjoyed by all.

May 1959

A drive has been started to raise sufficient funds to purchase a piano. This fund-raising was in the form of a piano keyboard, each note having a specified value. Those wishing to make a donation autographed the note they wished to buy.

June 1959 Home and School meeting.

Mr. Laybourn announced the school motto which has been decided on

"Success Through Honour and Endeavour"

Mrs. C McKay suggested this for the school motto.

A request made to all parents to please send notes when children have been absent from school.

July 1959

Ashbrook v Convent

It was fathers' and mothers' day at Memorial Park last Sunday afternoon before a good crowd of spectators.

In the basketball game the young Convent mothers had the edge over Ashbrook and won 8-3.

The fathers' football saw a motley array of bald heads, grey heads, tall, short and rotund line up for a dour struggle, but neither side had scoring ability. The game ended in a draw 0-0. The ambulance man was called on, on numerous occasions to administer oxygen to players running short of breath.

Home and School Meeting

Mr. Laybourn drew parents' attention to the newly formed Maori Club where, for an hour each week, senior pupils were taught Maori songs, games and crafts under the tutelage of Mr. Kingi and Mrs. Maxwell. The main object of the new club was to encourage better knowledge of Maori songs and culture among Maori pupils, Pakeha children who are interested are eligible to join.

At the end of the meeting a group of Maori parents entertained with a wide range of songs with guitar and ukulele accompaniment.

An impromptu "hula" by Mrs. Mitai and Mr. Dick Akurangi closed the entertainment on a hilarious note.

August 1959

A fancy dress ball was held in St John's Church Centre. It was not as large as they wanted but it was the best available so you had to be early to be in.

Prices	Family ticket	4 shillings & 6 pence	45c
	Adult ticket	2 shillings & 6 pence	25c
	Child ticket	1 shilling	10c

No smoking permitted. Don't worry we will give you an interval.

September 1959

The new school piano arrived, much appreciated by staff and pupils.

The entertainment for the September meeting was a debate between two teams, pupils and parents. The topic –

“Should corporal punishment be abolished?”

Affirmative Team

Gwen Roe

Gwenda Perry

Margaret Vanstone

Barbara Hough

Negative Team

Mr. Foster

Mrs D Perry

Mrs. Papuni

Mrs. Taylor

Pupils

versus

Parents

October 1959

Mrs I Hilder was thanked by Mrs Caves for making the cover for the new piano. A number of complaints from parents that notices were not reaching home. Decided to advertise over Radio 1 YZ to remind all those interested, meetings were held the fourth Thursday of every month. A demonstration was given by Mr. Bonnevie on how to use the new projector. Comment: “Spare a child and keep your smile”.

November 1959

Sister Jocelyn Perry took the audience on a trip around the world with her lovely coloured slides.

Upcoming dates for school functions.

Wednesday December 2nd

- Parents Day/Flower show

Thursday December 10th

- School concert

Wednesday December 16th

- Form 2 Function

December 1959

December 1st was the last meeting held for the year. Mr Laybourn extended his compliments of the Christmas season to all present.

Last function for 1959 was an informal evening for parents of Form 2 pupils. Mr. Laybourn wished them every success in the future and said that he hoped they would not forget Ashbrook School.

Pupils and staff then served a dainty supper and the evening concluded with the pupils singing Psalm 23.

Official Opening

July 30th 1959

Mr. J H Thomas, Chairperson, from the South Auckland Education Board declared the school open. Mr. W J Inskip, the member for this district on the SAEB, was also present. About 80 parents attended the official opening. The Chairman of the school committee, Mr. DL Abbot, welcomed the parents and visitors alike. The weather was threatening but held off long enough for the ceremony to be performed.

FIRST PUPIL REGISTERED AT ASHBROOK SCHOOL 2.2.59

His name is Tumoana Peter Riri

FIRST NEW ENTRANT 2.2.59

Her name is Margaret Gilmour. Margaret has the distinguished right of being the first 5 year old to start at Ashbrook School, where as others had come from Opotiki Primary.

Principal's Timeline



Mr. R.J Laybourn February 1959 – to May 1961



Mr. J.G.P Brown May 1961 – December 1964



Mr. W.F Walker February 1965 – March 1970
(No Insert)



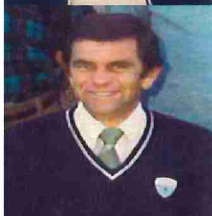
Mr. J.K Scully October 1970 – September 1975



Mr. J Bowden February 1976 – December 1978



Mr. A. W. Bull (Acting) January 1979 – May 1979



Mr. D Dent May 1979 – December 1987



Mr. D Ferguson January 1988 – December 1999



Mr. G Gandy January 2000 to present day.

Tributes

*In Loving Memory Of
Ethne Margaret Hough*



*Ashbrook Teacher -1965 - 2002
Forever Grateful.*

*The whole school lined up outside on
The roadside as she left her home for
the last time. We performed a stir-
ring
school haka. We felt proud and sad.*

Junior Hawkins Year 8 student.



*In Loving Memory of
Kath Te Kakau Pickard*



*Born 28th July 1936 - 14th December
2006.*

*Her time at Ashbrook began in 1984/5
where she had her fair share of lead
teaching responsibilities.
Kath loved Reading to children. This
was one of her passions in which she
excelled. Her other love was children's
writing. Kath always expected the
best of children's writing and they
always delivered. Before teaching
at Ashbrook she worked down the
South Island before moving to Australia.
Kath had three children, Victor,
Ngawaiata and Joan. Kath loved her
all her mokopuna and spent as much
time as possible with them. Kath was
enthusiastic about not smoking and
always gave smokers a hard time even
though she wheezed more than them.
Kath was still a class teacher at the
time of her passing. It was a very hard
time for her students, colleagues and
family. Her services are not forgotten.*

*E nga rangatira, moe mai ra koutou ki roto I te korowai o te atua. I
kawea e koutou I nga Tikanga o te matauranga, me te whakaakoria ai
I nga tauira o Papa-te-whai. Noreira, takoto koutou I roto I te koopu
a o koutou Matua tipuna. Tenei matou e tangihia, e mihihia.
E kore tatou e warewaretia I a koutou. Kei roto koutou I to tatou
whatumanawa, e pakinikini ana te mamae.*

*A Tribute to another Ashbrook Great
Ariel Upton*



A Tribute to another Ashbrook Great.

Miss Ariel Upton.

*Ashbrook Years of Service from:
1965 - 1980*

Ariel Upton has to figure in my books as a continuing marvel. She seemed to never change. I distinctly remember her, when I was a bright-eyed five year old, as scary as they come and even forty years later she still seemed to still have an unseen hold over me. Her family consisted of one brother.

Although Aerial was a stickler for correctness and discipline she managed to somehow feed children's enthusiasm to learn. I was one of them....I survived.

So to dear old 'Miss Upton' one thing is for sure, at least they named a Park after you.

*A tribute to another Ashbrook Great
Mrs Constance MacKay.*



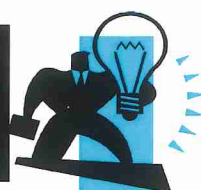
Constance MacKay's teaching career was extensive and rich. Upon researching her life as an Ashbrook past great, I was compelled to learn that her rigid teaching style would become the catalyst for a host of students who would later in their lives pay some tribute towards her and, more importantly in their lives. Constance was known more affectionately as 'Ma Mackay'. Others at the time discreetly referred to her as "the Battle Axe". This was more than just a name. For the 'Battle Axe' could've been interpreted simply as 'a stand no nonsense and you do it my way' kind of person and, in fact, she was a teacher who demanded excellence from her students and accountability from the parents.

There were no in between and God help you if you didn't.

Despite only really meeting her twice, I can understand the respect and reverence she held in her time. So to Mrs Constance MacKay who recently passed away in 2007, we the successor's of Ashbrook salute you and your legacy.



More Memories
from
Ex-Pupils.



I remember Music Festivals, where we'd practise the songs at school, then Mrs. Young would come to visit and teach us more and then finally, after what seemed like months of preparation, we got to perform either at the College or, in the later years, in the Deluxe Theatre. It was fun singing with the children from the other Opotiki schools.

Netball was great. Ashbrook had many teams and we'd often win competitions. Miss Pahewa was at the courts each Saturday cheering us on.

Calf Club was always a highlight of the year with many, many children having lambs, calves or goats. We'd compete and the best would go on to Group Day. Kirsty often took out the Champion Lamb prize.

Tech – we'd get the bus once a week in Form One and Two and go to Opotiki Primary for tech. Sewing, cooking and woodwork.

Cooking was the best because you got to eat what you had made. Sometimes we'd have some spare time before tech started, so we'd nip to the Service Station to buy lollies.

Catriona White (nee Young)

I remember the great days of cricket when we would race out to the field with our metal stumps. There were two sets of tatty old yellow stumps welded together so we did not have to make any new holes in the ground. First two people out would be batting. We would play with a baseball instead of a cricket ball so we did not need pads. We would play whenever we could. What great fun we had.

Chris Banks 1976 – 1983

I spent all of my primary years at Ashbrook, and had a great time doing so. Some of my favourite memories are the outdoor education trips such as camping at the Tauranga Stream, and the lunch time activities such as endless hours of padder tennis, or "cops and robbers." I also recall Sarah Pahewa telling my mother that I "should work for someone like the DSIR". Today I manage an electrical engineering team in a technology company based at Industrial Research (IRL) in Lower Hutt, which is the present day Crown Research Institute that was formed from what was the DSIR. So I guess I followed Sarah's advice.

In between Ashbrook and Lower Hutt I have been to University in N.Z., and then in Scotland for 3 years while getting a PH.D., and worked for other electronics companies in Auckland, in the fields of electricity distribution, and laser strike. I am married to Megan, and have three wonderful children.

I think there were many teachers at Ashbrook who put their heart and soul into teaching the children, and I appreciate their hard work.

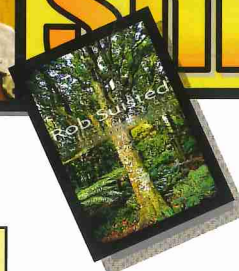
Warren Young

- * Playing bullrush on the field without worrying about getting hurt
 - * You could buy cream buns in lunch orders and they only cost 7 cents each
 - * Going on a camp to Tauranga Stream with Mr. Bull and going eeling in the dark.
- * Swimming in the school pool then lying on the concrete in the sun to warm up.
- * Mr. Bowden catching a mouse in the classroom with a softball bat.
- * Miss Pahewa teaching us lots of cool songs like "Song Sung Blue." and "Streets of Laredo."
- * Lamb and calf club days were a lot of work and heaps of fun.
- * Folk dancing on the netball court.

Megan Applegate (nee Watson)

House

Shield



Which of the four House Teams reigned supreme in your day?

Of course, if you are as biased and staunch as me, then naturally you would say. . .

Kaka, Kiwi, Tui or even Weka; for these were the House Team names that so many children, parents, grandparents and teachers came to love and battle for in each sporting activity or House challenge. The house names were suggested by Principal Laybourn.

In the early 1960s to the late 1990s the Houses were by and large family orientated and every House member would give their right arm or leg for their House team if it meant 'winning'. In 1960 Kaka House had the privilege of claiming the first House Shield. It was fiercely contested for a further twenty-three years before going missing. Fortunately, in 2005, it was re-discovered in the bottom of a box of old discarded journals and in two halves. The old House shield has been resurrected and given a new coat of varnish. As we approached the new millennium we discussed a noticeable trend that in two of the top houses had basically dominated all facets of sports and challenges over the latter twenty year period.

Present House Name's

Kauri

Matai

Rimu

Tawa

After numerous debates and deliberations, the majority won out and so a new concept was born. The new House names depict trees: Matai (Red) Kauri (Yellow) Rimu (Blue) Tawa (Green) as part of our new school vision towards conservation and environmental issues in our local community and district area.

House teams now challenge each other in the traditional sporting activities and points are given for best House banner, chant, team participation, speech competitions, cross-country, KASH Mediation and leadership rolls.

The winning House receives the Manutioriori Trophy at the end of each term. The overall House team receives the House Shield after all term points are collated at the end of the year.

The first House to win the shield for 2007 and 2008 is Kauri House. One thing is for certain, we at Ashbrook School, whether in school, district, regional or national level, will be giving a 100% effort, 100% of the time.



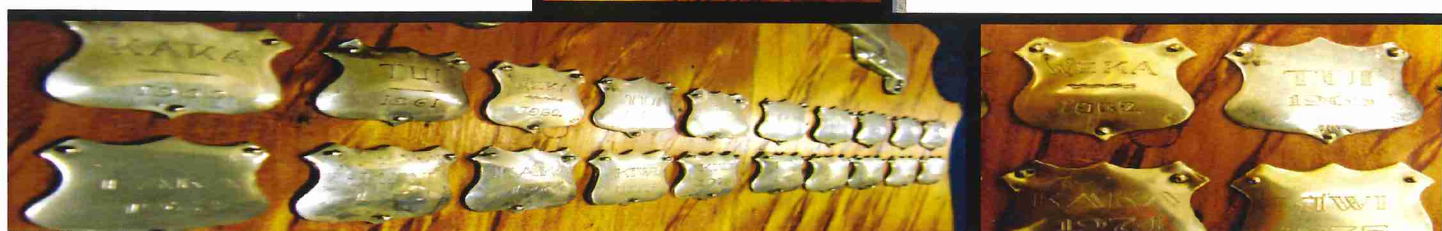
Past House Name's

Kaka

Tui

Kiwi

Weka



Delamere Cup

Ashbrooks Involvement with the Delamere Cup.

'Ko wai raa ko wai raa Ko Papatewhai e ngunguru nei I au au aue ha!

Background History.

In early 1961 a meeting of the Maori Women's League discussed among its members how the children in the Opotiki area could become involved in Maoritanga. Mrs Rawinia Rangi, a long time tutor and driving force behind many cultural groups, chaired the actual meeting. It was agreed that a Cultural Festival be held for Primary Schools with the aim of fostering things Maori. At the first festival each hapu of the Whakatohea performed and so did three schools, namely Waioweka, Kutarere and Ashbrook. A trophy was donated by Mr. Bill Delamere but had no name although it was understood to be an old disused rugby cup. As Kutarere was the first recipient in 1961, a hui was held to name the Taonga. Present at this hui was Kuia Te Onewhero, a renowned elder of Te Upokorehe and Te Whakatohea. She asked "Who gave the taonga?" The reply was, "Na Wiremu Taramea," (Bill Delamere), and so it is now known as the Delamere Cup.

Since the very first Delamere Cup was held in the Pakowhai Hall in 1961, Ashbrook has had a rather flirtatious affair with the cup, with numerous second, third and fourth placings. Our first ever win was in 1965 and was followed in 1967. For a mainstream school this was a fantastic feat on its own thanks to stalwarts like Mrs Rawinia Rangi and Grace Maxwell. Our gratitude extends to Sarah Pahewa who orchestrated all the teams in the 70's, 80's and 90's and then was ably assisted by the Mitai Whanau who are all members of National and Regional team Opotiki Mai Tawhiti. (OMT). It is these kapahaka skills, knowledge and history that are passed on to our students.

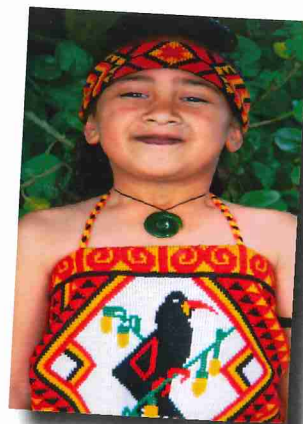
Performing kapahaka back then was more about giving your best for your school which is a far cry from today. Ashbrook, alongside Waioweka, would have to be the longest serving schools in the Delamere Cup, with Kutarere phasing in and out.

Throughout the following twenty plus years, after many near misses and just abouts, Ashbrook seniors won again in 2000 and 2003. This allowed the 2003 team to go to a National Primary School Kapahaka Competition where they were placed 15th out of 33 teams. A real eye-opener indeed! Our first school haka was composed and performed also in 2003.

Times have certainly changed but our love and commitment toward kapahaka and Delamere Cup have not.

In the past we have boasted up to five teams in each section: Senior Delamere Cup, Senior Novice (which we have also won numerous times) and the Pipi Section which allows the new entrant and junior children their time to shine.

So on behalf of the many ex-students, present and future participants of the Delamere Cup we say, thank you all.



Productions

Musical Productions and Plays.

Ashbrook School has always been renowned for their contributions to the performing arts curriculum. Many children have graced the stage at one time or another either as a junior pupil in plays like 'Porete', three little Pigs, various Christmas Plays and many more. The Senior Syndicates ran a number of big productions like 'Oliver' 'The Makado' 'Westside Story' 'Sound of Music' Tamehana's Musical Journey, Tamehana Musical Journey around the World and Sign of the Seahorse. These were mostly held at the Opotiki Deluxe Theatre. Tamehana 2 was held at Terere Marae. The biggest production was the Sign of the Seahorse which involved the whole school of two-hundred a live band and community resource people. Our school productions have been ultimately successful and of course these would not be possible without people like Mrs. Cecily Rose, Mrs. Carol Young, and Mr. Richard Mitai who produced and directed. We are very fortunate to be able to call on our much talented community who performed, videoed, set up and ran lighting, Emcee, played in the orchestra or band, set up or built props, painted back drops and everything else you can think of it was all part of our great successes. We thank you all.

Watch out for our next production in 2009.

Ps. Remember the Kids for Kids Concert with Suzanne Prentice?



Ko Wai Raa Ko Wai raa, Ko Papatewhai e ngunguru nei



**ASHBROOK SCHOOL
WINNERS OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOLS'
BUTTERWORTH SHIELD COMPETITION
2008**



Back Row: Keani Williams, Judus Kora, Kurei Young-Martin,
Cedric Katene (Coach), Zak Tarei, Wharengaio Pio-Tutengaehe, Rawiri Brooking
Front Row: William Gandy, Maurice Taia, Jarrod Clay (Capt), Kenna Rapata.
Special Thanks to Coaches; Turoa, Terry, Cedric and Daniel.

Congratulations Boys. You did it!
Mr Mitai and Mr Goonan

Ashbrook has a proud history and association with many sporting codes but none quite as rewarding as the Butterworth Shield. Even though we started ninety years after the shield was first played for we have certainly taken our chances. Ashbrook won the shield in 1967, 1973, 1974, 1978, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1997 and 2008. The spirit of playing for the Butterworth Shield is alive and well.

Childrens Writing

Respecting our Elders is a thing of the Past

The hospital was gloomy as usual, but it seemed to liven up as soon as I saw the smile on my Koro's face. We chattered a wee while and I ate all his lollies. About a half an hour had past and Koro drifted slowly off to sleep.

An old man sat upright in the bed next to Koro. He was having trouble with his bed controls. His fragile hands shook furiously as he fought with the controls. The wrinkles on his face were like numerous miniature ravines, along with the absence of hair on his head suggested to me that he'd seen many things in his long eventful life.

I fixed his bed and made him comfortable.

"Thank you," he said in a croaky withering voice.

"No problems" I replied. Breathing with a little difficulty he asked me to sit beside him. I did, unwillingly though, but I knew it was wrong to leave someone alone in such a fragile state or plainly I was just too shy to refuse. But I guess he just wanted some company.

After a while we began to chat away like long lost friends, reunited at last and his wrinkles didn't seem as deep as they once were. His boisterous grin revealed a young man who had finally found some excitement after years of boredom.

I will never forget him, because he taught me that our elders hold many interesting tales and delightful wonders. And inside each and everyone of them, a young boy or girl is waiting for a chance to reveal themselves.

By Maurice Te Haeata Taia

In the world New Zealand is the best country to live.

I disagree that New Zealand is the best country to live in because, firstly we have too much violence, secondly we have a lot of gangs in our communities and finally, we have too many drugs that kill people.

Firstly, I think that there should be no violence. We have a lot of child abuse, raping and killing which is not good.

Secondly, I think we shouldn't have gangs in our country. If boys fathers or family members are in a gang, the boys will copy them and they will get into trouble or might go to jail. I believe there should be no gangs.

Finally, drugs. I think that drugs are not good for people. When they start they get addicted to them. Drugs like smokes and weed create tar on your lungs. Sometimes chemicals in drugs can stop your heart beating. I think drugs should be banned because people can die from them.

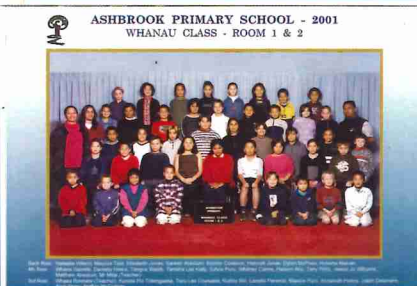
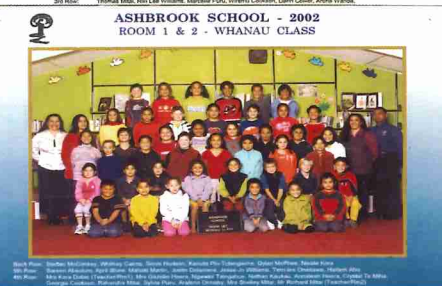
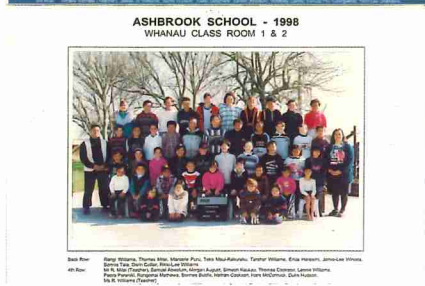
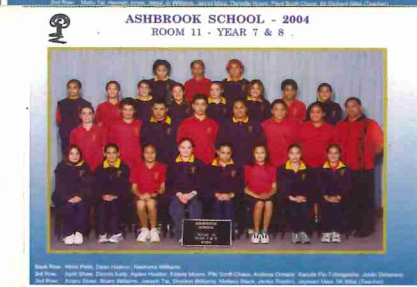
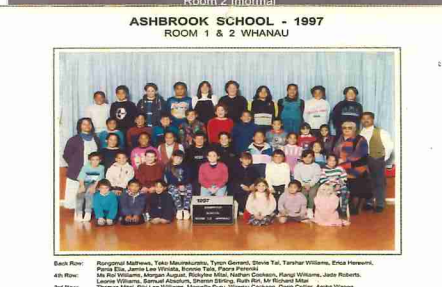
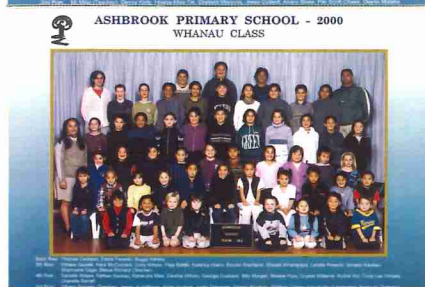
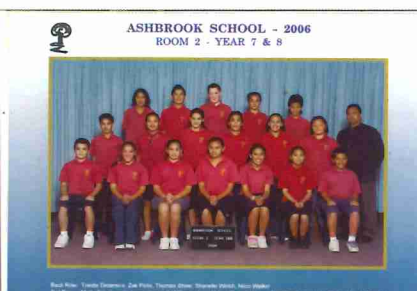
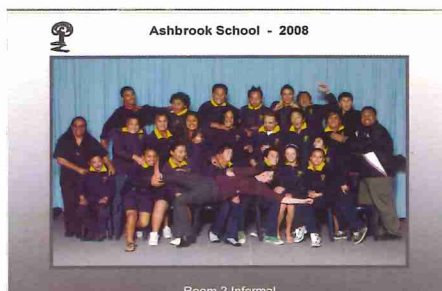
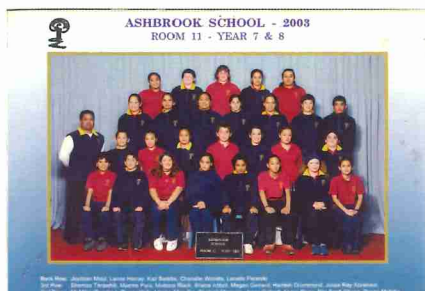
Therefore, I firmly believe that NZ is not the best country to live in because of what adults are doing, adults in gangs and adults selling drugs.

I believe New Zealand is not the best country to live in.

Year 7 Student 2009

Room 2

Mr Mitai and Past and present Pupil's.



Two of my 2009 Class showing early leadership potential. Kenya Mathews, and Tarsha Hustler. Over the last sixteen years at Ashbrook and as a teacher I have met some fantastic characters, witnessed remarkable accomplishments by students and encouraged growth in their learning. Every class of children has been different with individuals all competing for attention one way or another. One thing is for certain though, our children are special.



Room 3

Best Activity

- Floundering
- Kayaking
- Staying on Hokianga Island
- Learning about kutama
- The French people visiting



Improvements to camp

- making it longer by staying more nights
- girls go to Hokianga Island for the experience
- free showers
- free computer time

Funniest Part

- Tukaki snoring
- Taylar getting stuck in the mud
- One tent full of girls being told to sleep in the rec room
- Jasmine capsizing the kayak
- James Winiata's rap song

Worst activity

- Going to sleep. It was boring because we weren't tired
- Climbing the hill was as tiring as
- Going for an early morning run
- Nothing really



What I learned

- how to put up a tent
- how to kayak
- the history of Hokianga Island
- that we should be good so we don't have to do jobs
- lots of stuff

First ever manual day

About to set off for the college

Preston – I wonder what group I'll be in.

Victor - I hope it is going to be fun and exciting.

Jayden – What class will I be in? I'm nervous.

Daniel – My first time at manual. I hope the teachers don't get angry.

Keanu – What are we going to do this morning?

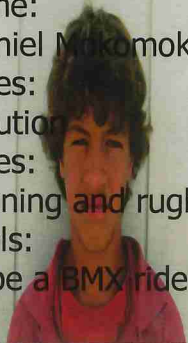
Jahni – I love food. I hope I'm cooking.

Brontzon – I hope it's not going to be boring.

Cajun – Ooh, this is exciting.

Room 4

Name: Daniel Mkomoko
Hates: ...
Pollution
Loves: ...
Running and rugby
Goals: ...
To be a BMX rider



Name: Santana Collins
Hates: Running & being bored
Loves: Sports & activities
Goals: to wake up early for school



Name: Taylor Turner
Hates: Brussels' Sprouts
Loves: going to the river
Goals: to become a lawyer



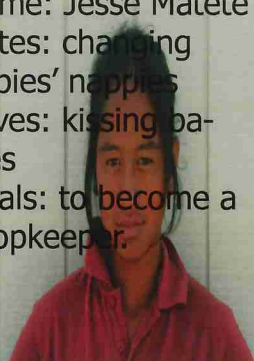
Name: Kaysea Cronin
Hates: Having to do my room
Loves: going for rides on my motor bike
Goals: to be an orthodontist when I grow up.



Name: Raiden Welsh
Hates: Camels
Loves: Rubbish, food
Goals: To be a judge



Name: Jesse Matete
Hates: changing babies' nappies
Loves: kissing babies
Goals: to become a shopkeeper.



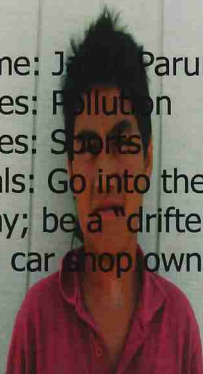
Name: Tyia Hata.
Hates: Stupid ability.
Loves: Riding horses.
Goals: Be a really respectful mediator if I become one.



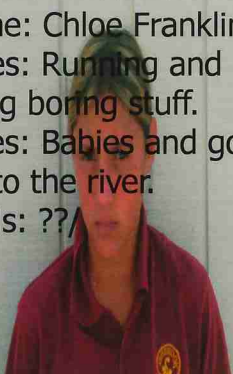
Name: Victor Malik
Hates: Japanese people killing whales
Loves: Rugby
Goals: Be a "drifter".



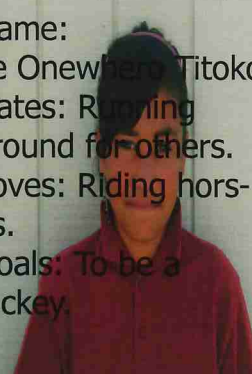
Name: James Paruru
Hates: Pollution
Loves: Sports
Goals: Go into the army; be a "drifter" and car shop owner.



Name: Chloe Franklin
Hates: Running and doing boring stuff.
Loves: Babies and going to the river.
Goals: ??



Name: Te Onewhara Titoko
Hates: Running around for others.
Loves: Riding horses.
Goals: To be a jockey.



Name: Keriatea Heke-Gemmer
Hates: Murderers
Loves: Skateboarding, swimming and sport.
Goals: join the army; be a sergeant.



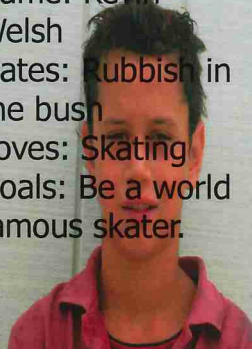
Name: Thompson Clay
Hates: Mushrooms
Loves: Swimming, shopping and sport.
Goals: Be a rugby player.



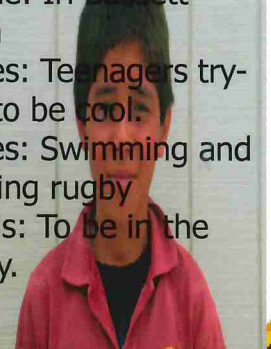
Name: Creedence Paora
Hates: Squash
Loves: Netball and writing.
Goals: To be in the council.



Name: Kevin Welsh
Hates: Rubbish in the bush
Loves: Skating
Goals: Be a world famous skater.



Name: Iri Bassett-Kora
Hates: Teenagers trying to be cool.
Loves: Swimming and playing rugby
Goals: To be in the Army.



ROOM 5



Dawn
"Reading and making new friends"



Journey
"I like the swimming and playing games"



Syriah
"The work that we have to do in class"



Paris
"People I know at the school. My sister's came here"



Natalia
"Having lots of friends"



Tiare
"Because we learn a lot here, it's a good school"



Liam
"I like my friends and the good things we do here"



Rosie
"My friends and the teachers"



Huntah
"Playing with my friends, because they help me"



Max
"I enjoy learning a lot of new words"



Pidoi
"Friendly people and the teachers are nice"



Hinehou
"The trees and the classes"



Tuhoe
"Playing and writing"



Jackson
"The playground and my friends"



Anaru
"The learning and the writing"



Mason
"Everyone's nice and friendly here"



Te Rii
"Having new teachers"



Ripeka
"I enjoy the reading and the school"



Paeone
"Swimming and athletic's are cool fun"



Room 5 2009

ROOM 7

SNIPPETS ABOUT THE ESTUARY

Ohiwa Harbour – shining starfish in shallow water clinging onto a tree.
Jason

Scuttling in the soft mud. I am digging in the sticky icky mud.
A bristling worm sliding in the soft sticky warm mud at the estuary.
William

I am stuck in the mud at Ohiwa Harbour.
The mud tickled my feet.

Best Things about Ashbrook

The library – because it is very quiet. It has lots of books to read. It also has colourful walls - Nikeal

Going swimming because its cools you down on very very hot days - Moewaka

Having lots of yummy fresh fruit everyday

Rakau

Athletics when we do running races.
Tiwana

The playground because its fun - Sian

Having sports days - Alyce

In Room 7 We Like...

I like reading because it's nice and quiet. It helps you learn and it has a little bit of interesting pages.

Nikeal

We really do amazing learning.
Bethaney

We do lots of hard puzzles
Rakau

Drawing. We do lots of drawing.
Jay

Writing in our books and we get to play fun games when we finish our work.
Arahia

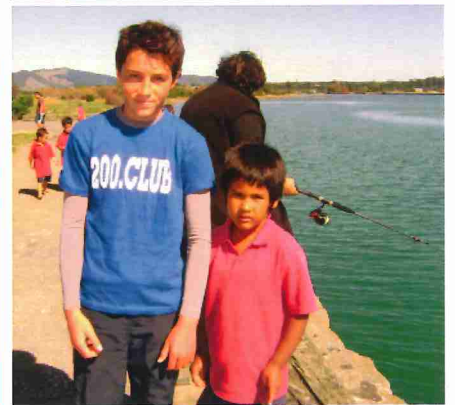
Estuary Snippets

It was fantastic at the pipi beds but not when we got left behind and I got cut.
Gemini

I like crabs
They are pointing in my hand with their sharp clippers and tickling me.
Michaela

ROOM 8

New Entrants
love outdoor
education



Teachers, family, friends and buddies make learning fun!



Room 9 Ashbrook School 2009



Alana Black
My koro (Denny Ross)
came to Ashbrook.
All my friends go
here.



Camdyn Collier
My dad (Dean Collier)
came to Ashbrook.
He played rugby with
Dean McKillop.



Chelsey Callaghan
My mum (Ngarangi
Callaghan) came to
Ashbrook.



Tahai Matete
I came from Hastings
to go to this neat
school.



Berlina Herewini
My brother and all
my sisters come to
Ashbrook.



Dylan Winder
My mum (Amber
Hayman) came to
Ashbrook.



Jody Kurei
My mum (Nadine
Pene) came to
Ashbrook.



Judas Riri
My mum (Terrilene
Riri) came to
Ashbrook too.



Shane Henry
My mum (Karen
McCormack) loved it
at Ashbrook.



Sonny Clay
My mum works at
Ashbrook and all my
brothers and sisters
came here too.



Atonia Biddle
My dad (Patrick
Walker) and my mum
(Jacqui Biddle) both
came to Ashbrook.



Hone Callaghan
I came from down
the coast to go to
this great place.



Savannah Rawiri
I came all the way
from Christchurch to
go to Ashbrook.



Cleveland Welsh
My dad (Kevin Welsh)
loved sport at
Ashbrook.



Makarini Hawkins
My Dad (Junior
Hawkins) went to
Ashbrook.



Mr Bowden
Our teacher has been
at Ashbrook a long
time. He taught some
of our parents.

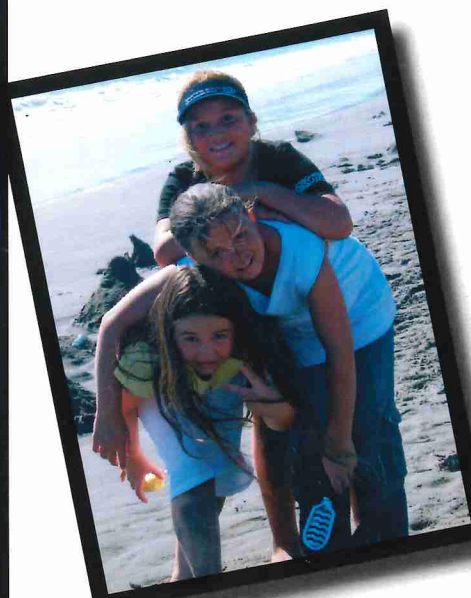


Years 5 + 6

Favourite School Memories

Making delicious homemade pizza was as much fun as going to Disneyland. (Letitia)
 Playing rugby at Memorial Park was great fun even though we lost every game. (Owen)
 I liked dancing in Kiwi Can. It was very entertaining. (Tobias)
 I loved our school's Olympic Games. I won the high jump. (Ripeka)
 I remember making hot stone soup. Bubble, bubble. (Tanika)
 I came first in sport. I was excited. (J-Max)
 Going to Ash Idol to watch my cousin and sister being zombies was very exciting for me, but not for my brother. (Clarissa)
 I loved playing rugby because I could score tries. (Tori-lee)
 Having Tyron come back to school after breaking his arm was very entertaining because we could write on his cast. (Shania)
 On the first day of school everyone was very welcoming to me. I made a lot of friends. (India)
 The Jump Rope for Heart day was the best time I ever had at Ashbrook. (Erika)
 Dancing the salsa made me feel like I was on Dancing with the Stars. (Stoney)
 I have always loved listening to teachers' stories. (Isaiah)
 I loved singing on the stage at kapahaka. (Ariki)
 On my first day at Ashbrook I felt welcome. (Chantay)
 I felt good when I learned my 12x table. (Samson)
 I laughed when we played the noodle game in Kiwi Can. (Bodean)
 I have always loved Maths. (Raria)

We hope you enjoy the Jubilee!





**Kaua e warewaretia te reo o nga tipuna,
kia mau i roto i nga ringaringa o nga tamariki.
Awhinatia o koutou mokopuna,
kia manaaki ratou i te reo Maori.**

Forget not the language of our ancestors and grasp hold of it within the hands of our children. Nurture your grandchildren and help them to learn the Maori language.



**He honore, he kororia ki te Atua,
he maungarongo ki te whenua,
he whakaaro pai ki nga tangata katoa.**

May there be honour and glory to god, peace on earth and goodwill to all people.



*Special Acknowledgement of
Significance*

Miss Sarah Pahewa.

She will definitely kill me for this contribution as she is one of two overseers for our 50th Jubilee Magazine, Ohh that's right, I'm the other. Late addition, Sorry Miss! You weren't home and so...

Sarah Pahewa, Hera to her family and 'Miss' to all those who had the good fortune of being one of her students at Ashbrook. Sarah's illustrious career at Ashbrook began in 1966 spanning over forty-one years.

Truly a mammoth effort by any one individual. Reminiscing about the days of when she travelled to and from the coast, over the Maraenui hill and in every possible weather condition is too colossal to even comprehend, gallons and gallons of petrol for her little yellow 'Cortina' she aptly named Constance. She would have clocked up enough mileage equivalent to travel around the world three times. Now that's commitment!

Sarah celebrated her retirement in our school hall among many whanau, friends, ex-pupils, teachers and parents. Many fine memories were shared by all. The singing was exceptional to say the least. We took a song trip down memory lane of the many songs Sarah had taught her students like; 'Joshua fought the battle at Jericho' 'Mac the Knife', 'Streets of Laredo', 'Streets of London' to name but a few and only she knew all of the words.

Her gifts were fit for royalty and intimate enough to be personal. The food was a real coasty- banquet which had the spoils of Kina and Paua too and under a lit up gazebo and warm evening, we wine and dined. All this was done in accordance to her wishes (of course not) so you can imagine how surprised she was. She is now happily living back down at Whitianga with her Whanau and cats.

So to 'Miss Pahewa' (Hera) we wish you the very best in your well-deserved retirement, Ashbrook will miss you immensely.

Thank you for your long standing service to Ashbrook Pupils, Parents and Community of Past and Present.

Ma te Atua koe e Manaaki.





The Hall



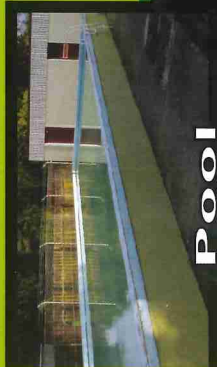
Rm 10,9



Prefabs



Rm 5,6,7,8



Pool



Library



Dental Clinic



Bike-shed Area



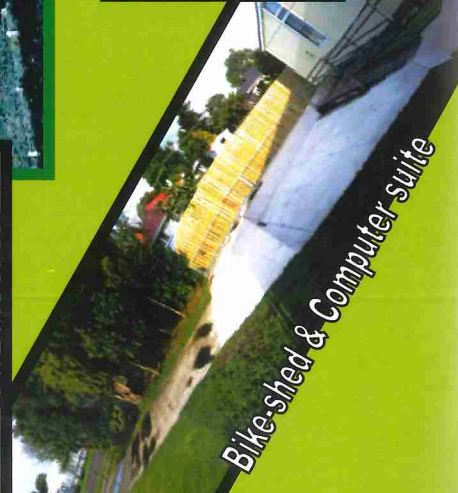
Playground



Rm 1,2,3,4



Office & Staffroom



Bike-shed & Computer suite



Front View of School



CHANGES. FROM THEN TO NOW.

Our school has taken on, over the last twenty five years, some significant changes in appearance.

As you drive up to the front car park area you are greeted by a warm friendly atmosphere. On entering the gates your eyes are cast towards the colourful tiled pathway of student artwork. The gardens are well kept and enhance the surroundings.

The administration block reveals significant changes in size, comfort and style with an architectural entrance way that symbolises strength, unity and visions of the future. The first renovations to the block were in 1999 and again in 2003.

A school notice board in the shape of a wharenui is erected at the front gate. It was built as a senior year eight project to better inform parents of school happenings and display children's work.

The school hall was purchased after the 1987 March 2nd Edgecumbe earthquake. It arrived on the 18th July 1991 in two halves and many contractors, staff, parents, grandparents and children set about resurrecting it for use. The hall continues to be well utilised and is a central meeting place for assemblies and powhiri. The latest additions to the hall are the central heating units and fantastic large decking and ranch-sliders.

The Astroturf: To cut a long story short...

\$63,000 later and 35 ton of sand, Ashbrook has Astroturf - multi purpose outdoor surface facility enjoyed by all.

The Computer Suite was opened in 2000 and has definitely given students the opportunity to advance their learning in computer technology.

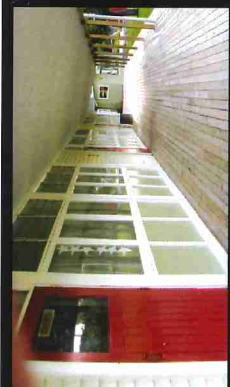
The decking on the front classrooms 1,2, 3 and 4 is a real bonus which provides much needed shade and extra work space.

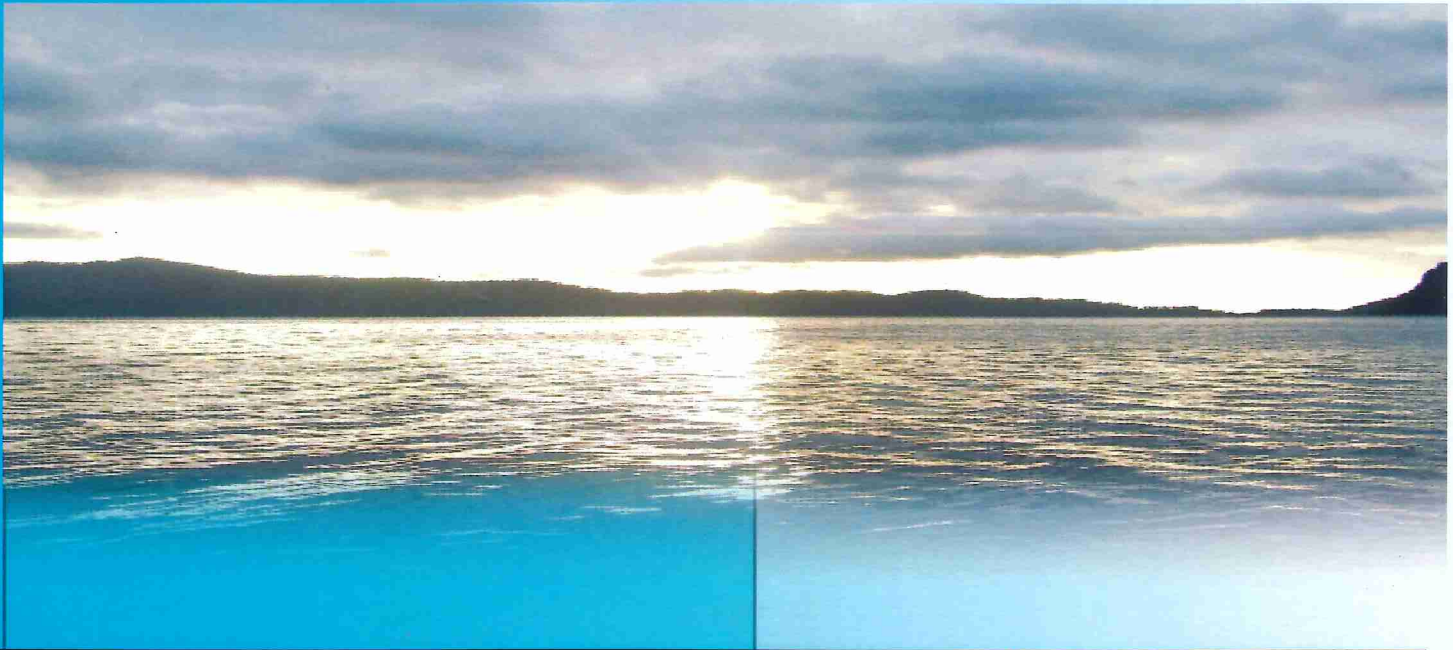
The junior play-ground is bright and colourful and well used. No more splinters, that's for sure!

Various fencing, planting and seating embellish the school environment.

Add to the equation the caretakers shed, the PE shed, the EOTC storage shed, the Junior Bookroom extension, and the Whanau unit classes.

Things that have stood the test of time are the Boiler room which is still fired up with coal in the cold winter months by our caretaker and the use of a timer. The old PE shed is now an arts storage room, the pool is still in fantastic working order (thanks to great craftsmanship) and the wall... yes the wall!





Waikaremoana 08



Waikaremoana- The Great Walk.

Truly an understatement for those who take on this challenge irresponsibly. To say the least, thank goodness for prior knowledge and good preparation.

Day One. December 2nd 2009, Term 4.

The kids starting arriving around 7.15 under an early morning blue sky. The karakia and final check routine signalled our departure time. The two Lowes Hire vans left the gates followed by Digger Wilson and Junior Hawkins on their four by fours. Kevin Hustler, Renee Mitai, Coral Charmers made up our tramping team. We were supported by Tom Mitai Senior, Kanuta Pio and Raharuha Mitai who would serve as our essential boat supplies crew.

We headed up through Murupara, Ruatahuna and on to Waikaremoana. Corals team were first to hit the track at the Hopuruahine end. We moved on to the Boat ramp for lunch where our boat crew headed out on the calm lake to Waiharuru Hut with team ones first load of supplies. Team two carried on up to the motor camp for the night, stopping off at the local DOC Office to say hello to some ex-parents of the school, Gavin and Karen Kaukau. Their son Nathan joined us too. Nathan was a member of our last group, along with Kanuta and Raha to tramp Waikaremoana. There was much to discuss later that week. Coincidentally, there were several siblings on this tramp from the 2004 lot. We settled in that night ready for an early 'tough', long day.

Day Two.

Onepoto Entrance to Panekiri to Waiopaoa.

Early to rise. Raha dropped us off at the Onepoto track at 6.45am. Photos, click! Click! We hit the track at 7.00am. The first two hours comprised of a steep 45 to 60 degree climb so breaks were frequent but short. Sharing the packs seemed to pay dividends. It was hot...really hot and we welcomed any small gust of wind that whistled up the cliff face and down through the trees. We didn't see any sky for at least two hours due to the thick, denseness of the trees and scrub.

Around the three and a half hour ascent, we came to a familiar set of cliff-rocks that jutted out off the cliff face high above the lake. Click! Click! Some fantastic photo shots taken, looking down over the incredible Lake Waikaremoana. The Panekiri Hut signalled

a well earned break for lunch.

A German tourist made for interesting lunch chatter. After hiking some of New Zealand's great tracks his biggest concern at that point in time was how to beat off the annoying sand flies. We obliged him with our miracle bottled cure and set off on our merry way. Four hours, mostly down hill to our campsite at Waiopaoa.



A lesson learnt today for me and the kids. Lesson learnt, don't think they know everything and understand everything you say!

Six out of the ten kids went ahead as per usual, unfortunately, did not stop to check as they should have. They got down in three hours flat. As the tail-enders strolled into camp, a sly comment made by one of they perpetrator's was enough to lose my cool. They were quickly geared up in two minutes with full packs and heading back up the hill for an hour payback. After a soothing, cool swim, the others joined us in the lake apologetic and tamed. BBQ sausages were a real treat, mashed spuds and coleslaw. Junior and the boys set some Koura traps that night. We camped out in the tents that night under a star-lit sky.

Day Three.

Empty Koura traps. Blast! Have to wait till the next camp. A Big breakfast, Everyone in good spirits. We packed our supplies down to the lake edge for the boat crew and we headed off on a five tramp to Marauiti Hut. The extra hour and twenty minutes off the main track to the exhilarating Korokoro Falls was worth it. The rock rope bridge was hilarious too.

We sent a scout (Wharengaio) ahead to see if we could ambush the other group. No sooner had he returned and we scrambled up the side of the track and waited. Within minutes the peaceful silence was shattered by the shrill of excitement and joy as we pounced down on them like heavy rain. The kids hugged each other as if they were long lost friends meeting up in some remote country. Panekiri, I heard someone ask, "Is it

that huge"? No! said a second voice. It's much bigger! After twenty minutes of idle chatter, I rallied the troops onward to our next destination. Marauiti Hut, smaller than the rest, 26 odd bunks. The couple who stayed with us that evening commented on the great attitude our children had. They hailed from Palmeston North. Loved what we were doing for our students too. They couldn't believe that we came over the Panekiri in one day. Uncle Tom and crew spent the evening with us. The big rock swimming hole was a winner. The girls (Nadine and Claire) took the first 30 metre jump followed the boys. Junior's hot Fried bread with jam and golden syrup completed the afternoon activities. Yummy!

That night a group of us set off back over the hill to the nearest creeks to chase Koura.

The quick steppers were signalled to carry on ahead as I trailed behind contently. I watched their little torch lights dance along like little fairies and then disappear below under the thick blackness of the night. Who would have guess what happened next. My headlamp shut off and everything went dark, pitch black. Her I was stranded on the top of a hill in the middle of the track in pure darkness. No moonlight to guide me anywhere.

There was only one thing to do.



Yell my head off, so I did. "Juuuunnnnniiiiiooorrrrrr! I stopped to listen. There was no reply. I let out another burst that would have sent the critters scampering for cover. I stopped to listen again. Nothing. Then as I was about to give another call I heard a faint reply. "What's up"?

"My torch lights gone out" I replied.

Nothing else was said, but in the dark distance I watched the dancing fairy light skipping along through the bush and make an upward turn toward me. It was Whare to the rescue. "Here Uncle" he said as he past over a second lamp, and darted off back down the hill to rejoin the others. Enough said now.

Our first four Koura of the trip. Things were looking up.

Day Four

Marauiti Hut to Waiharuru Hut. An easy two hour walk for us today, warm weather and little bit of cloud. As we got along the track, I noticed that the kids would stop to glance back at the Panekiri Range which we could now see in full complexity of its size and length.

We arrived at the hut at 12.10pm just missing our boat crew. Waiharuru Hut is the biggest of them all, modern and comfy. Sleeps about 40 people easy. Great layout of the place. Heaps of room. Met some tourists from Scotland, Italy and Switzerland.

The afternoon activities comprised of swimming, scouting for trout and koura and relaxing. Remember the sink wash girls? That was a real blast!

The school from Palmeston were Year Elevens on a survival course weren't too interested in our young hooligans till they invited themselves to our concert evening. We sang very strongly of course, several songs actually before they departed company. Their teacher said that they needed an early night. We knew different. We were just too damn good for them. They weren't to know that we thrive on the Performing Arts at our school.

Anyway we still managed to leave that morning before them. Haa!

Dinner was Chow mein, fried spuds, mince. It was delicious. The evening activities had Renee and a group of girls tag along behind Junior and his boys to get more Koura for our breakfast. They did not disappoint.



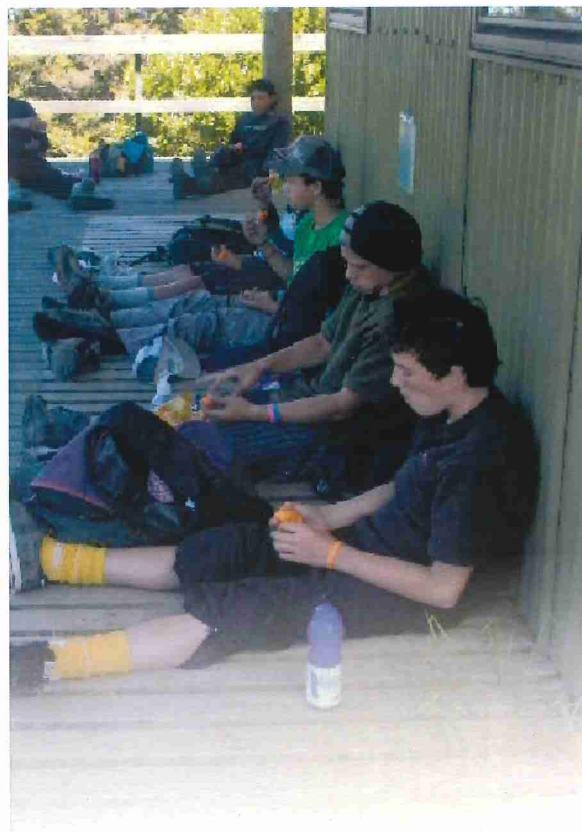
Day Five (Saturday)

Waiharuru Hut to Hopuruahine Landing. 4 hours.
We lit out at 6.40am, why I'm still not sure. Everyone seem to be recharged after breakfast and eager to get on their way. A quick stop at the Whanganui Hut to catch up with our Palmeston North friends and we were back on the track. It seems that the pace quickened as we ran out the last 45 minutes of the Great Walk. This side of the lake was far more secluded and quiet, almost as if it were another lake all together. None the less, the views were just as spectacular.

As we approached the final signpost which read 15 minutes to Hopuruahine, it was like a race-horse bolting out of the gates. Despite a four day hike, the kids still found the energy to run with their packs. A loud chorus of jubilation rang through the bush as we rounded the corner and cut onto the bridge. High fives all around. We had done it. We had conquered Panekiri and the Great Walk.

The Great Walk- Waikaremoana 46km and 51.2km with Korokoro Falls inclusive. Te Panekiri, 1180 metres at it's highest point. The spectacular views disperse any hint of anguish and strain. Stay long enough to inhale the freshness of the wilderness but short enough to not let the bones seize up. Waikaremoana, a memorable experience of a life time, for all who enter her domain.

By Richard Mitai



Waikaremoana 08

Whanau History

Ngā Mokopuna o Roka rāua ko Harry Shaw
Ashbrook School 2004



© Opotiki Photo Lab

Back row: Dennis Mansell, Jessie Shaw, Hōri Shaw, Darnell Pūhā, Debbie-Sharon Shaw.

Middle row

Jeremy Shaw, Te Amaru Jones, Teriina Maxwell, Waitai Jones, Elizabeth Jones, Kenna Rāpata, Latasha Shaw, Boxer Shaw

Front row:

Jordan Rāpata, Thomas Shaw, Roberta Shaw, Anaru Shaw, Mr Graeme Gandy (Principal), April Shaw, Brooke Rāpata, Jonnie Shaw



Ashbrook School

Success Through Honour and Endeavour
Papa te Whai

Established in 1959, Ashbrook Primary School has built a very strong reputable ethos and culture within the community over the past 50 years.

KO WAI RA KO WAI RA KO PAPA TE WHAI E
NGUNGURU NEI
I AU AU AUE HAA!



We believe students need a well-balanced, challenging Primary School Education.

At Ashbrook, we are dedicated to delivering a high level of 'Literacy and Numeracy Programmes'.

Our students work daily in an academic, friendly environment.

We provide a full range of opportunities to challenge all levels of students.

1959-2009 Celebrating 50 Years of Education

Curriculum and Academic Learning 2008- 2009.

Literacy and Numeracy

- English and Mathematics
- Gayle Byers- Three Year Writing Contract
- STAR Testing
- ASTTLE Reading, Writing
- Trained Literacy Teacher Aides
- PAT National Standard Testing
- ANP Mathematics
- Australian Numeracy Tests
- District School Math Mind
- RTLB -Resource Teacher of Learning Behaviours

Science

- EBOP Science and Technology Fair & Science Roadshow B.P. Challenge

Social Sciences

- DOC - Programmes
- New Zealand
- Local Environment Studies
- Local and Global History

The Arts

- Musical Productions Mid/ Senior, Junior.
- Kapa haka- Pipi, Novice and Senior Teams
- Choir Teacher
- Art/ Music Teacher
- Ash-Idol

Health and Well-Being

- AIMS Games
- Weetbix Triathlon
- Fruit in Schools. Member Health Promoting School.
- Social Worker in Schools programme.
- Senior/ Middle Sports Days. Junior Sports Days
- Life Education Caravan
- Kiwi Can

Water Safety Programmes

- Year 7 and 8 Girls- Mothers and Daughters evening
- Values Programme. Resource teachers learning and support contact
- Sport and Fitness

Open Communication with Pre-schools and Local Kohanga Reo/ Rest Homes

- Wakaama/ Kayaking/Mini Dippers Diving Course / Self Defence

Education Out-side the Classroom (EOTC)

- Camps- Sea, Rivers and Lakes, Estuary, Bush All Skill-Based Programmes
- Class Field Trips

Maori

Whanau Unit

- Year seven and eight Panui Competency Test ASTTLE (Opotiki College)
- Te Reo Maori - District Speech Competition
- Te Reo me ona Tikanga Level 2 - 3

Successful Programme Initiatives

- Duffy Books in Homes Programme. KAH - Kids at Home school.
- Mediation Programme (KASH) Kids are super helpers.
- National Young Leaders Day
- Senior Incentive Programme
- Community Clubs Composing Music/ Recording Studio/ Editing
- Ashbrook Kid
- Opotiki Schools cluster group. Restorative Justice Initiative.
- Breakfast Club
- Homework Centre
- Reporting. Extensive reporting to Parents

Notes:



Final Thoughts

Ashbrook has had numerous changes to buildings and grounds and numbers over the years but, as the 25th Jubilee Magazine says, the spirit is still strong. Many of our families are into their third and coming into their fourth generation. The roll numbers peaked prior to the 25th then dropped again. In the next decade it rose to over 300 and at present, like the economy, we are in recession mode. Throughout all the ups and downs we have remained true to the kaupapa of the school and are always seeking the best for our children and school. From out there in the wider world we hear feedback of the successes our children have experienced. We endeavour to continue building foundations for our children to use as their springboard into a successful and fulfilling life.

Kind regards

Heather Newell AP and Chairperson 50th Jubilee Committee 2009.



