

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back to the college for 2021.

A document titled **Helpful Information** about fees, absences, lost property, etc is included. Please be sure to read the section regarding travel to and from school carefully as our imminent building plans are going to seriously compromise our parking and access to the college this year.

There have been a number of questions regarding **uniform and stationery** which can be answered by accessing the links below:

Stationery Lists - <http://resources.mtaspiring.school.nz/stationery-list-2021>

Uniform - <https://www.mountaspiringcollege.nz/mac-uniform.html>

Students' **timetables** can now be accessed on the [portal](#). A further email will be sent out very soon to remind you of your user name and password. Any Year 7-11 **class, timetable or option queries** should be emailed to their dean.

Barker - Years 7-10 - Clare Scurr: scurrc@mtaspiring.school.nz

Barker - Years 11-13 - Heather Watt: watth@mtaspiring.school.nz

Iron - Years 7-10 - Jane Watson-Taylor: watsonj@mtaspiring.school.nz

Iron - Years 11-13 - Sandra Findlay: findlays@mtaspiring.school.nz

Pisa - Years 7-10 - Deb McMillan: mcmilland@mtaspiring.school.nz

Pisa - Years 11-13 - Simon Nyhof: nyhofs@mtaspiring.school.nz

Roy - Years 7-10 - Gareth Hodges: hodgesg@mtaspiring.school.nz

Roy - Years 11-13 - Roy Gawn: gawnr@mtaspiring.school.nz

The course confirmation for Year 12 and 13 students will happen next Thursday - see information below.

Bus passes will be issued to those students who are eligible in the first couple of weeks of term. No passes will be checked in the meantime. Students who are new to the college will be contacted next week to inform them which bus they should catch. The easiest way to identify the pick up / drop off point is if the student can be delivered to school initially and then take the bus home. This means that they can talk to the bus driver to identify their correct stop.

Start of Year Information

THURSDAY 28th JANUARY - Year 12 and 13 Course Confirmation.

This is an opportunity for all students to meet their dean and confirm the subjects they will be studying in 2021.

- Returning Year 12 and 13 students can come to the ECR from 9.00 am until noon.
- New Year 12 and 13 students (not in the hostel) are to come to the main reception area at 9.00 am.
- Hostel students will have their course confirmation at 3.00 pm.

FRIDAY 29th JANUARY - Staff only day - College closed

MONDAY 1st FEBRUARY (school buses will run at normal times on this day)

All Year 7 Students: 8.35 - 3.15 pm, meet in the gym

All Year 11, 12 and 13 students: 8.35 am start, meet in the quad. (Returning Year 11 students should wear uniform).

NEW students in Years 8, 9 and 10: 9.45 am start, meet in the North Block for an orientation.

NOTE: Students in Years 8-13 will be free to leave around 11 am.

Friends of MAC invite parents of students who are new to the college to join them for refreshments at the Food Technology Courtyard from 8.35 – 9.30 am on **Monday 1st February** to network with other parents.

TUESDAY 2 - THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY

All students to be at school: 8.35 am – 3.15 pm and to attend the **powhiri** at 9.00 am on Tuesday morning.

Uniform: All returning students in Years 8-11 should be in full school uniform. All students new to the school and in Years 12 and 13 to be in tidy mufti suitable for wearing 'to the office'.

FRIDAY 5 FEBRUARY - House Day followed by tug of war. More information to be sent home shortly.

Term Dates for 2021

Term 1: Monday 1 February to Friday 16 April
(Waitangi Day – observed - Monday 8 February)
(Otago Anniversary Day - Monday 22 March)
(Easter – Friday 2 April – Tuesday 6 April)

Term 2: Monday 3 May to Friday 9 July
(Queen's Birthday - Monday 7 June)

Term 3: Monday 26 July to Friday 1 October

Term 4: Monday 18 October to Tuesday 14 December
(Labour Day: Monday 25 October)

We hope that you find this information helpful and look forward to seeing you very soon.

Kind regards

Nicola Jacobsen

**Principal
Mount Aspiring College**

Mount Aspiring College

Helpful Information

PAYMENT OF SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

- Invoices for course-related fees are emailed home monthly.
- For internet banking payments: Mt Aspiring College 03-1739-0027820-00.
- Eft-pos, cash and cheques are also accepted (credit card payments incur a 2% surcharge).
- For all enquiries about accounts: fees@mtaspiring.school.nz
- For financial hardship: millerk@mtaspiring.school.nz

ABSENCES - Let us know about sickness / appointments / late arrivals / other absences from school

- Email: absence@mtaspiring.school.nz
- Phone: 443 0499, select option 0, **wait** for the recorded message, then state child's name and reason for absence.

Do not assume that teachers will forward absence information to the office; always inform the office as well.

COMMUNICATION

- The student's dean is the main point of contact for parents who wish to make contact with the school.
- The main form of communication out to parents is via email
- A weekly newsletter (including key dates as well as news) is published and emailed home on Fridays
- Reporting is communicated via the Kamar Portal. This also provides valuable information about absences, student's timetable, library loans, fees, NCEA credits and student notices. A user name and password for the Kamar portal will be emailed home shortly.
- Face-to-face communication between teachers and parents takes place in term one (Team-Up conferences)
- Make any arrangements with your child prior to the school day as we have no runner system. To avoid interruption to the learning environment: Send messages to students in Years 9-13 via text (students can check their phones during breaks). Send messages to students in Years 7-8 via the child's home room teacher who will do their best to pass on the message (NB ask for an email acknowledgment and also cc the email to absence@mtaspiring.school.nz) •
- A 'Friends of MAC' student directory is compiled in Term 1 to aid communication between parents.

CONFISCATIONS

- Non-uniform clothing will be confiscated and can be collected by the student from the office at the end of the day.
- Cell phones must not be visible during class time (all day for Year 7/8 students). If confiscated, phones will be held at the office and can be collected at the end of the day. Inappropriate items which are confiscated need to be collected by a parent.

LOST PROPERTY

- NAME all items, including valuable non-uniform items which your child might bring to school.
- A large lost property bin is located in the student entrance.

TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL

- Bus students: All students require bus passes which will be issued shortly after the start of Term 1. Consult the college regarding bus routes. Consult your neighbours regarding stops and times.
- Cyclists: Bicycle racks are supplied (use bike lock). Students are to WALK their bikes onto the school grounds.
- Scooters and skateboards: Must not be ridden on school grounds. Racks are provided outside the school office.
- Students are not permitted to park on the college grounds including the swimming pool car park. Students should use Plantation Road with an overspill into Beaumont Street. It is OK to park on Lismore Park between the large rocks, but all other cars parked on the verge on Plantation Road will be liable for parking fines.
- Drop-off by parents: All students to be dropped outside the college; please do not drive into the college main car park, OP carpark or the old swimming pool carpark. If you need to come into the college grounds please use the short-term parking spaces on the edge of Lismore Park.
- As we have extensive building work commencing on the campus we need to ensure that student safety is paramount. Egress is likely to become more congested and we urge all traffic of any kind (including those on foot) to slow down near the campus.

MEDICATION

- Students may carry their own medication, but we are happy to hold medication at the office, especially if the medical condition is critical.

CANTEEN

- Open at interval and lunch with an emphasis on healthy food and drinks (menu will be published in the newsletter).
- Apart from snack foods, all items need to be pre-ordered at the canteen website:
www.mountaspiringcollege.nz/mac-canteen.html

MUSIC LESSONS

- Itinerant music lessons are available to students in two two-termly blocks. The music department sends an email home to parents of students in Years 7-10 and to all senior music students regarding these in the first couple of weeks of term.