

23 February 2023

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **TOP SCIENCE STUDENT LUCAS BUICK ATTENDS ROTARY NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FORUM**

Te Kura o Tititea Mount Aspiring College Year 13 student Lucas Buick was one of only 168 students across the country selected to attend the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum in Auckland last January.

Lucas was selected by Wānaka Rotary to attend the event which recognises the top-achieving science students nationwide.

Lucas said the forum provided him with many valuable learning opportunities.

“I really enjoyed making connections with other students who are passionate about science and professors who are leaders in their scientific fields.

“I now have a better understanding of the major science subjects at a university and career level which will enable me to make more informed choices about my future.”

Colin Sharp of Wānaka Rotary Youth said the forum was an important opportunity for like-minded students to meet and foster their interest in science.

“We believe this event helps broaden students’ minds and gives them valuable insights into future career opportunities in the field.

“We were very impressed by Lucas and his confidence and commitment to his science studies and we were proud to have him represent our community at this important event.”

Mount Aspiring College Principal Nicola Jacobsen said everyone at MAC was very proud of Lucas’ achievements.

“It’s really exciting to see Lucas’ passion for science being nurtured through an opportunity like the Rotary Forum and it’s a testament to Lucas’ hard work that he was selected to represent our school and our community at the event.

“We have a strong focus on academic excellence at MAC so it’s pleasing to see Lucas being recognised for his skill in the field of science.”

Lucas’ attendance at the forum was partially funded by Rotary Wānaka and his travel and accommodation costs were also supported by a Pioneer Energy scholarship awarded to Lucas in 2022.

Lucas has also been selected in the 2022-23 New Zealand International Biology Olympiad Programme, an intensive course of biology tutorials awarded to the top 225 biology students across the country.

#### **More information**

Please contact Principal Nicola Jacobsen on 03 443 0498 or [principal@mtaspiring.school.nz](mailto:principal@mtaspiring.school.nz)

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