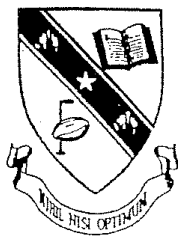


# Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka  
Nothing But The Best*

*Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence*

PHONE (03) 315 8233

FAX (03) 315 8476

E-mail [Principal@amuri.school.nz](mailto:Principal@amuri.school.nz)

NEWSLETTER NO 38

Week Ending 4<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

Here we are at the last newsletter for the year. Once again, I have very much enjoyed keeping you up to date with news and coming events relating to our school during the year and most weeks, it's one of the weekly jobs I have no difficulty tackling. I hope you have enjoyed the content of the weekly editorial and find it useful; if you have any comments or suggestions, feel free to send them in to me. Thanks to all of you who take the time to read the newsletter – it is our simplest form of communication and we rely on it to get information to you, on which we might be seeking feedback.

The Science Roadshow was enjoyed by many students last week and thanks to Amy den Haring for her work in organising this event. There were many fascinating displays and thanks also to those students who acted as helpers in one form or another on the day.

The PTA Calf and Lamb scheme had its conclusion last Friday night with its prize-giving. 46 calves and 19 lambs were donated which is a fabulous effort. The heaviest calf (181.5kg) was reared by Simon and Leanne Macadam, while the heaviest lamb was raised by Darryl Byrne and Louise Pickering weighing 57kg. JJ and Philip Gudopp won the major prize that all donators were in the draw for and courtesy of Retirement Assets Ltd, they will spend two nights at the St Moritz Hotel in Queenstown. Well done to all and a huge vote of thanks to all who supported the scheme.

The money raised from this and the Trail Ride resulted in the PTA being able to present a cheque for \$20 000 to the Culverden Swimming Club last week to assist them with costs incurred in installing the solar heating and covering of the pool. This has enabled swimming to start earlier and with the pool at 25 degrees last week (not sure what it will be after this week!), it acted as a magnet for many. It's great to see a community asset being utilised and again,

the model of a school/community partnership asset is a strength of rural communities.

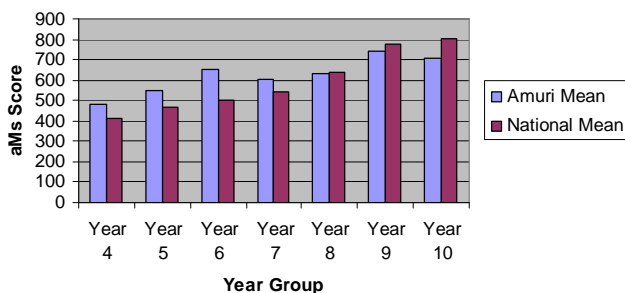
On Tuesday this week, Mr Hagan led a team of Year 4 – 8 athletes to QE2 competing as part of the Hurunui team. He reports that in cold conditions, all students gave nothing but their personal best, were very well behaved and enjoyed great support from parents. Thanks to him and all involved.

Congratulations go to our Head Student, Anna Duncan, who last week was presented with a Hurunui Young Achievers' Scholarship worth \$1 500 which follows on from her selection for a Young Leaders' Scholarship which has considerable financial and personal benefits. Anna was joined at the presentation ceremony by two of her peers - Tessa Walker and Monica Schwass - so it was nice to see three Amuri girls being recognised.

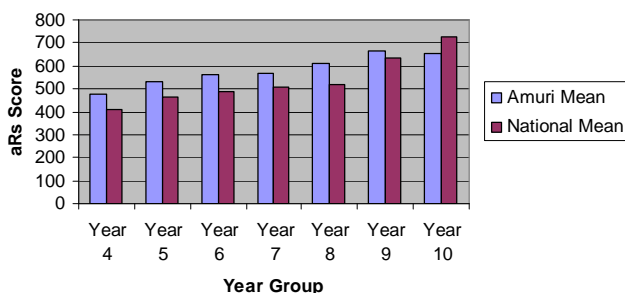
As you are probably aware, we completed our asTTLe Reading and Maths testing recently and the results are being analysed at the moment ready for reporting to the BOT and for assisting with the development of teaching programmes in 2010. Class means and national means are shown below at each class level but the results are very positive overall and students have been measuring their progress between the last lot of testing in November 2008 and these results. Again, these results are very encouraging and will be reported on in the end of year reports which will be issued next Friday after prize-giving. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the results, please feel free to call me and I'll try to answer any queries you may have.

On Tuesday next week, we hope for fine weather with the annual Hurunui Summer sports exchange scheduled at Hawarden. Touch, softball and indoor bowls will be played and good luck to all for the day. Wednesday sees the primary students off to Willowbank for their day out and with a large number of parents accompanying the group we hope they have a wonderful day in fine weather!

**Amuri asTTLe Maths**



**Amuri asTTLe Reading**



Next week sees the Awards Assembly on Thursday at 11am and on Friday it's Prize-giving. You may be asking what's the difference between the two? – essentially it relates to the level of recognition to the students. Firstly, as reports are written, students are nominated by the teacher in each subject for one of the following criteria:

- Effort
- Progress
- Achievement
- Excellence

When this process is completed, the number of nominations each student has received is considered and decisions made as to who gets their certificates presented on Thursday and who gets them on Friday. (The Parent Handbook contains a guide on this).

Secondly, there are the Sporting, Cultural and Academic Prizes for the year and these are all presented on Friday.

Students will be advised on Wednesday as to whether they are receiving a certificate and/or prize and if so, at which function. You are welcome to attend both and there will be musical items at both along with speeches on Friday from the BOT Chair, the Head Students, the PTA President and myself. Both start at 11am and expect to finish about 12.45 – when the functions finish, town students and any others able to, may go home. Buses will run as usual on Thursday while Friday times are advertised elsewhere - along with arrangements for the resumption of normal schooling in 2010. I hope to see you at one or both of these occasions where we celebrate our students' achievements over the year.

Neil Wilkinson  
Principal

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Canteen – LAST DAY 2009
- 8<sup>th</sup> Hurunui Exchange (Hurunui)
- 9<sup>th</sup> Class Trips Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> Awards Assembly 11am
- 11<sup>th</sup> Prizegiving 11am  
Last Day School 2009
- 12<sup>th</sup> NZ Athletics – Timaru
- 13<sup>th</sup> NZ Athletics - Timaru

**End of Year/Start of Year Arrangements**

**Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>**

11am Awards Assembly All students to attend

**Friday December 11<sup>th</sup>**

11am Prize-giving All students to attend

On both these days, students will be able to leave with parents after the function or go home at the usual times. Magazines and reports will be issued at form time following prize-giving.

**Monday January 25<sup>th</sup>**

Office open for enrolments, inquiries and for Year 12 & 13 students to confirm subjects after receipt of NCEA

**Friday January 29<sup>th</sup>**

Teacher Only Day  
Form leaders to collect form lists for phoning over weekend with start of year arrangements

**Monday February 1<sup>st</sup>**

All Year 1 – 6 students in class  
Form Leaders, Whanau Leaders and Head Students at school for Leadership Training Day  
All other Year 11 – 13 students asked to meet with form teacher from 1pm – 3pm to work on Individual Education Plans/Goal Sheets

**Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup>**

All students at school

**Buses – end of year arrangements**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

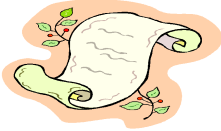
Balmoral, Hanmer and cascade buses will leave school at 1pm.

Cheddar Valley, Leslie Hills and Lowry Peaks will leave at 2.50pm to meet with connecting buses.

Reminder that your children can go home with you after prize-giving.

**BOT Meeting**

7.30pm on Tuesday December 15<sup>th</sup> in the Academy. Agenda and papers in the Library.



## ROLL OF HONOUR

**C = Caverhill**  
**H = Hamilton**  
**M = Mitchell**

	House
Rod Hall	H
Sarah Murphy	H
Jamie Michelle	M
Stefan Downs	M
Stella Sales	H
Josh Hickey	C
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> MERIT CERTIFICATE</b>	
Sarah Murphy	H
Chris Jermy	H
Ashleigh macadam	M
Jamie Michelle	M
Stefan Downs	M
Stella Sales	H
Ben Baker	H
Zak Jenkins	M
Zoe Chappell	H
Josh Hickey	C
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> MERIT CERTIFICATE</b>	
Ben Baker	H
Alex Boyd	H
Noah Broomhall	M
<b>3<sup>RD</sup> MERIT CERTIFICATE</b>	
Lee-Anne Alcantara	H
Georgia Benton	C
Emma Hartnell	H
Joshua Jones	C
Charlie Kinney	H
Luke Roberts	H
Isabelle Ussher	M

### Requests for using School Buses

Our bus drivers operate a "goodwill system" when requests come in for students to use a different bus.

However, they require any requests to come in the day before so that they can check with their loadings. Requests can be declined if students have previously misbehaved, are rude to the driver, forget to thank etc or if the bus is full.

We would like to continue this goodwill system. Please keep our drivers happy by sending a note to school the previous day requesting use of the bus and making sure students are thanking the drivers when they get off.

Elizabeth Teulon  
 Bus Controller

### Swimming Club Notice

Anyone of any age interested in length swimming fitness training, is invited to swim on Mondays and Wednesdays between 5pm and 6pm starting on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Only length swimming will be available in this time.

Swimming lessons will be offered in the week January 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> 2010 between 10am and 12pm daily. Ring Janet Murphy to enrol at 3158 198.

For any general inquiries contact Tania Jones at 3158 286

### DIVE INTO BOOKS!

A summer reading programme

for Primary age children held from

14 December 2008 to 30 January 2009

Enrolments start on 1st December. Join at your public library:

Amberley, Amuri, Cheviot, Hanmer Springs and Hawarden

DIVE INTO BOOKS! Your passport to:

Reading! Rewards! Fun!

A Finale Party! And...It's Free!

Bring your Library Card

Or join the library

Be Quick

### Holiday Contact

Please feel free to contact the Principal any time at home during the school holidays if the need arises – 3158 992 and please leave a message if there is no reply.

### Summer Holiday Activities

Toby Brown is keen to organise some activities for senior school age children over the Christmas holidays.

Are you interested in;

Sport, art/craft, two night tramps, day trips, swimming, The Beast Assault Course and Paintballing, Treetops High Rope Adventure Challenge?

If you would like more information about any of these activities please see Chrystal for a form, these forms are to be returned before the end of term. Toby will be in contact with you over the holidays.

Toby Brown 3156172  
 tobynz@yahoo.co.nz

# Senior School News

## Uniform

Form teachers are finding that there are a considerable number of students wearing incorrect shoes, tops, socks, thermals etc. It is very important in the last term of a year to maintain standards both inside and outside of the classroom to avoid a winding down attitude which can have a negative effect on student behaviour and classroom management. If there is a valid reason for incorrect uniform items please ensure that your child's form teacher is either notified in writing or you have discussed it with them. It is expected that every student in the school will be in full and correct uniform for the awards and prize giving ceremonies. To clarify any confusion over shoes the uniform policy states 'lace up black or brown shoes or sandals (not sports shoes)'

## 2010 Classes

It has been a pleasure over the last few weeks to meet and interview the new students coming to Amuri next year. As we say farewell to our wonderful senior students, many of whom we have known along time, it is reassuring to know that we have a group of enthusiastic newcomers to replace them.

## Finally.....

Thank you to all the wonderful parents who so willingly work with us to ensure we are continually able to provide the right environment for relevant, exciting and meaningful educational opportunities. Education and success depend on a positive three way relationship with the school, the home, and the student and good communication is essential. Have a pleasant and restful Christmas with family and friends and to those students who are leaving the senior school all the best in your future endeavours.

Penny Mossman  
Deputy Principal



# CULVERDEN DUATHLON

Sunday February 7<sup>th</sup> 2010



Run / Walk 5km

Bike 20km

Run / Walk 1km

Individual and Team Events

Open Grade

Senior Grade

Year 7 & 8 Grade (reduced course)

Entry Fee \$10.00 Secondary,  
\$20.00 Senior (per person)

Entry forms and further details at  
[www.amuri.school.nz](http://www.amuri.school.nz) or  
the school office

Section Prizes

Spot Prizes

Major Spot Prizes

Accommodation for two at The Heritage Hanmer,

Accommodation for two at the Grand Mercure St  
Moritz Hotel in Queenstown

Run by the Amuri Area School