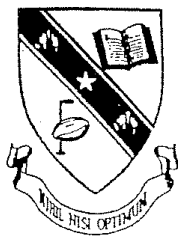


Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka
Nothing But The Best*

Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence

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NEWSLETTER NO 34

Week Ending 6th November 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

Information on the National Standards has now arrived in school and we are trying to find time to digest the material now. There are spare packs on what is expected in Reading, Writing and Maths from 2010 on and if you would like a copy, please call at the office or call us to get a pack sent to you. It would seem that in 2010 we will be expected to become familiar with the standards and provide parents of students in Years 1 – 8 with at least two 'plain language' written reports relating progress to the standards but you can expect to hear more later on these.

I met the Minister of Education last Friday in Christchurch along with other principals from Canterbury and in summary she promised nothing for the future except further constraints on spending and confirmed plans to cut spending on staffing as has been publicised recently.

Congratulations to Skye Bunt (model) and Emily Pike (design) who won the schools annual Wearable Arts Awards last Friday. Sharing second place were Sarah Johnson (design and model) and Mairi MacKenzie and Taylah Eagle who designed and modelled their outfit. With the duathlon this week, the lunchtime activities programme has come to a close for the year and thanks to all who have participated and assisted over the year in this unique feature of the school.

Well done also to Hayden Ross who was a star at the Amberley A & P Show last weekend. Riding his hack, he won the 'Two Jump Challenge' which means he soared over the highest height on the jumps and for his efforts won \$200! He then went on to win the Champion Hunter 'Round the Ring' section for which he won a further \$70 and a rug so the day was well worthwhile.

The athletics are now finished and the results are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. Competition was close as can be seen especially in the Under 15 boys and now attention turns to the Hurunui Primary sports on Tuesday where a team of about 45 students will compete - good luck to all competitors.

We are now considering the structure of the Year 9 and 10 classes in 2010 and the following options have been identified bearing in mind that we expect to start with 34 Year 9 students and 28 Year 10 students in 2010.

- a) Two Year 9 classes and two Year 10's. This has the disadvantage of costing a lot of staffing but has the advantage of small class sizes.
- b) Two Year 9 classes and one Year 10 class. This has the disadvantage of a large Year 10 group but does not cost the same amount of staffing time.
- c) A mixed Year 9 & 10 class of 'high achievers', one Year 9 class and one Year 10 class. It would be envisaged that the Year 9 class would be about 24, the Year 10 class about 16 and the mixed class about 22. This option is also easier on staffing but could be a little tricky to timetable.

The Ministry have accepted our numbers that generate staffing and funding so we are now able to make plans. If you have any thoughts on the above (or any other area of the school) please do not hesitate to contact me so your views can be considered.

At assembly this week, Martin Witt from the Cancer Society with support from locals Liz Florence and Lorna Hammond presented our Head Student with our Sunsmart Accreditation certificate and thanks to you all for your ongoing cooperation in this. Various bits of advice from the society will be contained in

future newsletters as we work to keep all of us safe from the impact of the sun.

The Board met last night and the following were some of the highlights of the meeting:

- An application from Mrs Cleeve for refreshment leave in Term 2 2010 was approved
- An annual plan with goals and targets for 2010 was adopted and an action plan to achieve the goals and targets will now be prepared (this will be published as soon as possible)
- The Amuri Curriculum with all Essential Learning Areas achievement objectives contained in it was formally adopted
- Notification was received from ERO that they will be visiting in 2010 with a term one date likely
- Approval to use some school funding to enable a programme of Adult Community Education to be offered in 2010 was given

The school golf championship was held today – results next week – along with the Lunchtime Activities Duathlon. This Sunday we hope for fine weather and a large number of riders in the PTA Trail Ride while next week, we vote for Whanau leaders in Years 7 – 13, form leaders are appointed, athletes travel to Cheviot and our senior students finish school to prepare for NCEA exams. There will be a brief newsletter issued next Wednesday as Thursday is a teacher only day and Friday is Canterbury Anniversary day.

Neil Wilkinson
Principal

Cups & Trophies from 2008 Prizegiving

All students who received cups or trophies last year please start returning these to the main office.



ROLL OF HONOUR

C = Caverhill
H = Hamilton
M = Mitchell

	House
Jasmine Mathisen	H
1ST MERIT CERTIFICATE	
Jasmine Mathisen	H
Lucy Brustad	C
Matt Wilkins	C
2ND MERIT CERTIFICATE	
Lewis Bell	C
Rochelle Carey	C
Nadine Hendry	C
John Smith	C

End of Year/Start of Year Arrangements

Thursday December 10th

11am Awards Assembly All students to attend

Friday December 11th

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. Bus arrangements on Friday will be advised.

Monday January 25th

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

Friday January 29th

Teacher Only Day

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

Monday February 1st

All Year 1 – 6 students in class
Form leaders, Whanau leaders and Head Students at school for leadership training day

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Nov 8 th	Trail Ride
10 th	HPSSA Athletics
11 th	Last Day Seniors
12 th	Teacher Only Day–SCHOOL CLOSED
13 th	Canterbury Anniversary Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
16 th	NCEA Exams start Milo cup cricket
17 th – 20 th	Year 10 Camp Windy Point
27 th	PTA Calf & Lamb Social
Dec 1 st	PTA Meeting
2 nd	Transition Afternoon
3 rd	Supporters Lunch Canteen – FIRST BREAK ONLY Canteen – LAST DAY 2009 :o)
4 th	
8 th	Hurunui Exchange (Hurunui)
9 th	Class Trips Day
10 th	Awards Assembly 11am
11 th	Prizegiving 11am Last Day School 2009
12 th	NZ Athletics – Timaru
13 th	NZ Athletics - Timaru



The Fonterra Science Roadshow will be visiting our school on Friday 27th November. This is a fantastic event for Year 5-10 students. Further information is provided on a notice students will be bringing home.

Primary School News

- ◆ Thanks for your positive response to our end of year class trip. Overwhelmingly, it has been decided that we will all go to Willowbank (Orana Park can not accommodate us on this day). The date is 9th December, leaving here at 9am and arriving back at 3pm. We still require transport to take the children to and from Willowbank on the day, a form will be sent home in the near future.
- ◆ Lost Property is fast growing – please come in and check if any of it belongs to your family.
- ◆ All children are required to wear sunhats this term – please ensure they have a named hat at school every day.

The Primary Staff

ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP Results - 2009

OVER 15 GIRLS	1 st Megan Williamson	39 pts
	2 nd Ronja Kraft	36 pts
	3 rd Eleanor Schwass	34 pts
OVER 15 BOYS	1 st Baden Petrie	36 pts
	2 nd Ethan Vincent	28 pts
	3 rd Richard Coughlan	26 pts
UNDER 15 GIRLS	1 st Hanna Coughlan	41 pts
	2 nd Kendall Bond	40 pts
	3 rd Gloria Diamond	25 pts
UNDER 15 BOYS	1 st = Andrew Forbes	31 pts
	Josh Hickey	31 pts
	Hayden Gillespie	31 pts
UNDER 14 GIRLS	1 st Belinda Dryden	41 pts
	2 nd Kim Scott	34 pts
	3 rd Hannah Forbes	32 pts
UNDER 14 BOYS	1 st Hayden Ross	41 pts
	2 nd Tom Northcote	27 pts
	3 rd Dimon Fomin	18 pts

UNDER 12 ½ GIRLS	1 st Ashleigh Macadam	37 pts
	2 nd Nicole Booth	29 pts
	3 rd Lilly Hazlett	28 pts

UNDER 12 ½ BOYS	1 st Brent Dalley	41 pts
	2 nd Beau Galletly	30 pts
	3 rd Keegan Gray	29 pts

PRIMARY GIRLS	1 st Mairi Mackenzie	32 pts
	2 nd Kelsey Norrie	30 pts
	3 rd Jessica Macadam	25 pts

PRIMARY BOYS	1 st Bryton Simpson	36 pts
	2 nd Harry Hall	34 pts
	3 rd Seb McCarthy	25 pts

WHANAU POINTS

1 st Mitchell	2 nd Caverhill	3 rd Hamilton
1237 pts	925 pts	886 pts

Most colourful Whanau - Mitchell

Most colourful individual - Gerard Beaven (Mitchell)

Senior School News

Holiday Work

The school has been very pleased to have been part of the ENC (Employment North Canterbury) programme of helping schools with work experience placements and job taster days. ENC have a great website covering the whole of North Canterbury which is well worth a visit at: www.northcanterbury.co.nz. This website has a great list of jobs from all around the surrounding area that could interest some of our students.

NCEA

Students will be given their exam admission slips and exam information next week so it is important that students are here to receive them. Remember also that the year 11 ICT exams are happening next week as well. With the end of the academic year and exams so close studying should be a top priority for students; this includes time at home as well as school.

Social Networking

Just to cover all communication bases NZQA is offering a Twitter service for exam candidates. Twitter messaging allows reminders of exam times, rules etc. If students wish to receive messages they must sign up as followers at www.twitter.com. The service offered about localised traffic problems to ensure they are not late to exams is probably not a big one for our students!!

Penny Mossman
Deputy Principal

AMURI AREA SCHOOL PTA ANNUAL TRAIL RIDE

Sunday November 8th 2009
Sign-on and Safety Check from 9.30 a.m.

NEW VENUE

Kaiora Downs, Mandamus Downs,
Culverden Homestead, & Montrose Station
Sign posted from Main Road, Culverden

FANTASTIC VIEWS TRACKS

Main Loop. Superb rolling downs over 4 farms with some
enduro deviations.

2nd Loop. Easy country, suitable for families

Mini. Peewee circuit near car park
(parental supervision required)

Suitable

2 & 4 Wheelers

Cost

\$40 per rider

\$55 Family (parents with children 15 years and under)

Compulsory

Helmet, Boots & Spark Arrestor Muffler

LUNCH PROVIDED FROM 11.30am to 2.00pm
SPONSORED BY FULTON HOGAN

Enquiries to:

Ritchie Morgan (03) 315 6404
Louise Pickering 027 229 3006
Information line on day 03 315 8150

