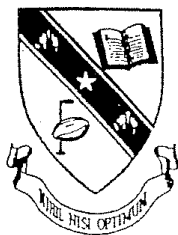


Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka
Nothing But The Best*

Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence

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NEWSLETTER NO 28

Week Ending 11th September 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

Wednesday was a gorgeous spring evening and many thanks to those of you who visited, performed, prepared, supported and/or assisted at Open Evening. We had a pleasing number of visitors on site and enjoyed showing you a sample of what goes on at our school with many positive comments heard about the improvements to H Block. If you have any thoughts about the evening – timing, content, value etc – please don't hesitate to send your ideas through as we ourselves review this date in our calendar.

This week we welcome Tanisha Singh to Room 2 and after a long wait, school is finally a reality for Tanisha and her parents! We also welcomed Nick Brown from the College of Education who was here to visit the teacher trainees and it was lovely to get a note from him saying 'This is a really nice school. It has a great atmosphere and staff.'

Many thanks go to Caroline Eastmond and Debbie Williamson for managing and coaching the netball team that competed in the South Island tournament last week as well as to the girls for their determination and efforts shown over the week. It was a big ask to be away from home for five days and we appreciate the assistance they gave. The team finished 10th in the C grade which was a creditable result given the level of competition.

Some time ago, Rose Robinson along with Ms Teulon put together an application that went to Totalspan asking them to put a bus shelter on the Lowry Peaks Bus run. Totalspan have been providing shelters across NZ in the last two years as resources permit and it was wonderful to receive a letter from them this week:

'Dear Rose,

Congratulations – your application for a new bus shelter as part of the Totalspan Undercover Kids Bus Shelter programme has been successful. Your

franchise will be in touch with you to discuss installation....'



Rose reading the letter she received from Totalspan.

Thanks to both Rose and Miss Teulon for the work involved in getting this shelter which will make waiting for the bus at 5 crossroads a little easier once built.

The Karaoke queen for 2009 after our lunchtime activity last Friday is Kim Scott with Mairi Mackenzie the runner up. We had six soloists or groups of students compete and now look forward to the talent quests to be held over the next three weeks.

Next week sees the Year 10 – 13 exams and the senior students have exam leave for this period. These exams are designed with several purposes in mind:

- To find out what Year 11 – 13 students know and don't know so as to be able to guide their preparation for external assessments later in the year
- To prepare the students for the conditions they will experience when sitting NCEA assessments

- To determine where Year 10 students are at as they begin the process of subject selection for 2010 and beyond.

The exams are an important part of school life and we trust that students have been preparing at home following advice from subject teachers. While they are practice exams, the All Blacks and the Silver Ferns prepare for their assessments each time they play by practising and so should we. They are important if ill health prevents attendance at externals and for Year 13 students, the results are factored into the determination of dux. Results for Year 10 will assist in the best selection of courses for 2010.

Thanks for your cooperation next Wednesday when the school will be operating with reduced staffing from 1.20pm because of the Paid Union Meeting members of the teacher unions will be attending. We will be providing supervision for the 50 students remaining with buses running normally and exams continuing for Year 10 – 13.

Best wishes go to the Year 13 Phys Ed class who are off to Queenstown and Wanaka for four days with Mr Cate next week to explore the adventure capital of NZ. A lot of preparation has gone into the trip by the group so we hope they enjoy the wide variety of activities planned. We also hope the Employment Skills students enjoy their work experience placement next week around exams – thanks to Mrs Mossman who has organised all aspects of this programme over the year. Work experience is a growing part of our school activities and relies on the cooperation and support of local employers which to date has always been generously given.

Next Friday is a 'loud shirt' mufti day for the students at school with a gold coin donation going to the Foundation for the Deaf. We look forward to seeing some interesting shirts on this day!

Neil Wilkinson
Principal



ROLL OF HONOUR

C = Caverhill
H = Hamilton
M = Mitchell

	House
Tiffany Jenks	C

1ST MERIT CERTIFICATE

Tiffany Jenks	C
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Wanted

RAGS: do you have any old towels or sheets or fabric you would be willing to donate to our art department for rags. Please drop anything you have into the school office.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 th – 18 th	Work Experience Week Year 10-13 Exams
18 th	Lunchtime Activity-Y7&8 Talent Quest
21 st	Quest
23 rd – 25 th	Got to go Day – Y9 & 10
25 th	CASafest Lunchtime Activity-Y1-6 Talent Quest Term 3 Ends
12 th Oct	Term 4 Begins
Looking Ahead	
Nov 12 th	Teacher Only Day–SCHOOL CLOSED
13 th	Canterbury Anniversary Day - SCHOOL CLOSED

Access to School Dental Services over the September/October school holiday period

The Community Dental Service has a contract to provide an emergency dental service for pre-schoolers and primary school children over the school holiday period. The service is limited to the relief of acute pain only and will operate from 8:30am until 12:30pm from the Oral Health Centre, 16 Tuam Street, Christchurch for the following times.

Monday, 28th September – Friday 9th October 2009 (excluding weekends)

Routine treatment will **not** be offered/available over the holidays and any accident related issues will be referred to Community Dentists as per usual practise.

SISS Netball

On Sunday 30th August the SISS Netball team travelled to Timaru to compete in the South Island Secondary Schools netball tournament. With two games a day the team was very competitive in their grade, and came up against some challenging teams. Some amazing netball was played and all the girls stepped up and worked together to make it through the very demanding week.

The girls thoroughly enjoyed the trip and would like to thank all the sponsors and individuals who helped make the trip possible especially Debbie Williamson (coach), Caroline Eastmond (manager) and Mr Wilkinson for all his support and work behind the scenes

HOUSE POINTS



Senior School News

Hurunui Youth Programme (HYP)

Last week I attended a meeting at the Hurunui Council Chambers to review and look at the future direction of the Hurunui Youth Programme. Along with adult school representatives there were also students who represented the HYP committees in the local Area Schools. I have a huge amount of admiration for the work that Sam Lyn the project co-ordinator is doing with and for the 12-18 year olds in the Hurunui. It would be fair to say that Sam herself is an inspiration however in saying that she has successfully recruited student committees that help take 'ownership' of the activities. Keep an eye out for information on what is coming up and if as parents you can find a bit of time to help with supervision at events I know Sam would appreciate your help. The funding for this project has been secured for two more years and all of us at the meeting agreed that it has been a positive, if not very overdue, initiative for the youth of the Hurunui.

Course Selection for 2010.

Every year we stress the importance of making well researched and informed subject choices. This year is no different except that more students are asking for advice and are giving wise consideration to choosing. There will be some subjects that have specific entry requirements however students will be made aware of this. The best advice I can give about this very important course selection process is:

- It should be suited to the individual students interests and abilities
- It should be challenging and achievable
- Relevant for career aspirations
- Provide pathways for future study at a higher level (where that is appropriate)
- Not as a result of peer pressure

Plan for the long term and keep options open by selecting a balanced course. Specialising too early has the disadvantage that if your career plans change your course selection may make this difficult.

NCEA Fees

It is essential that all fees are paid to the school by **Wednesday 16th September**. We are required to forward all fees collected by the 17th. After that date you will have to deal directly with NZQA and a \$50.00 late fee will apply and there is nothing we can do to prevent this.

Penny Mossman
Deputy Principal

Hurunui Youth Programme For all 12-18 year olds in the Hurunui

ICE-SKATING TRIP

Thursday 1st October

@ Alpine Ice, CHCH

Cost \$20

Bus Leaves Amberley Library @ 12.30pm

Return 5.30pm

You will need suitable clothing and extra money for food

Spaces are filling fast so register now!

3 D Sculpting Art Classes

Anyone interested in 3 D sculpting classes?

Have fun adding partial 3D images in your artwork by adding sculpture to your canvas using das (called semi relief work) or.....

Alternatively....why not go the whole way and create your own funky sculpture piece out of wire and paper pulp.

This medium can be used to create anything you like (animals, people, faces, buildings, landforms.

No special talent required, so why not give it a go?...guaranteed to be fun and messy!

Classes will be taught by Rangiora artist Catherine Heaps from Providence Art Studio.

Express your interest in this course now and classes will be set up where interest demands.

Leadership Camp

Calling anyone interested in attending a 3 day leadership camp on the 7th-9th December 09. You must be going into Year 12 or Year 13 next year and want to be involved in the Hurunui Youth Programme with particular focus on being a leader. Spaces are limited so please express your interest now.

Stone Carving Sculpture Course

These school holidays enjoy a two day stone carving course run by local artist Suzanne Emslie at her property in Hawarden

Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th of October
10am-3pm

451 Medbury Road, Hawarden

Cost \$20 – includes stone and equipment

Spaces are limited so register now!

To register for any of the above courses/classes/activities or for more information please contact Sam on 027 427 1087 or email sam.lynn@hurunui.govt.nz