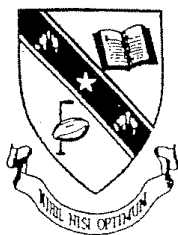


# Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka  
Nothing But The Best*

***Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence***

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NEWSLETTER NO 18

Week Ending 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

Firstly, apologies to Diane Johnson who I left off the list of Support Staff last week – as with the others in her team, Diane does a great job and we're a better school for her services.

This week the focus has been on our learning conferences and this years uptake is the best we have had since we initiated these in 2007. At assembly this week I outlined to the students the reasons for bringing these into the Amuri learning cycle – *'Research shows that when students are involved in the assessment process – learning to talk about what they have learned and what they still need to work on – achievement improves. When students communicate their learning using a variety of work samples they are able to.....identify their strengths and what they need to work on next'*. (from *Conferencing and Reporting by Gregory, Cameron and Davies*)

The conferences tie in nicely with the proposed new Ministry national standards because part of these require schools to explain how the school can help lift a student's achievement and what parents can do to help at home. This is one of the things we have focussed on in the conferences which like everything we do has the aim of raising student achievement.

They also tie in very nicely with our vision for the students of Amuri. Your **support** for the conferences by attending along with the **support** provided by the staff is the community aspect, becoming **self disciplined, independent and responsible citizens** is part of the rationale of the conferences where the students drive their learning and **giving nothing but our best** is what we are all doing to ensure these adjectives apply. You could say we are all working assiduously to make these happen!

Just a further reminder that the Year 7 – 13 teachers will be in the gym on Monday between 4pm and 6pm

to discuss any aspect of your son/daughters progress and learning in their subjects so do take this opportunity to come and talk with us if there is anything giving you concern. Please do come though with your son/daughter as that is really where the value is.

Last week, we appointed Ms Louise Davy to replace Mrs Springett from the start of term 3 and we have now completed the process of appointments in the Year 7 & 8 area. Ms Davy will be the Year 7 & 8 Coordinator and will take Mrs Springett's class while Miss Gray will take over Mrs Gardner's class. Both groups however will have a 'new beginning' as Ms Davy's class will move into Room 10 and Miss Gray's class will relocate to Room 9. Ms Davy is currently the RTLB relieving teacher, filling in for Kay Kennedy who is on study leave and we are now on the lookout for a relieving RTLB teacher for the remainder of the year.

A busy programme of trips and activities recently has brought many positive aspects and it has been particularly pleasing to get feedback from those involved directly and indirectly, indicating what great students we have here and how well they represent the school when away – these trips include the Primary to Wigram, the Year 10's to Hanmer, the Year 11, 12 & 13 to CPIT and the Year 9's to Hanmer this week.

Congratulations to the following students selected for primary netball teams:

A Team: Belinda Dryden

B Team: Ashleigh Macadam, Rose Robinson, Abby Fleming

Today was the last day for Kapa Haka as offered by the group from Christchurch and thanks to all the students and Mrs Springett who have participated in

this over the last 10 weeks. It has been disappointing that the senior students (Years 9 and above) have not joined in but those who have participated have improved their haka and waiata over the time. I am not sure where we take this now as having a group relies on people to take them – if you have any thoughts, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mitchell won last week's Year 7 – 9 quiz convincingly and today Year 10 – 13 showed their knowledge. Next week it is the turn of the Year 1 – 6 students.

On Tuesday, the annual Hurunui Primary Schools 7 Aside happens here and thanks to Mr Hagan for his work in organising this large event. With help from Mr Morrison in the grounds and Mr Cate with the Year 11 PE students coaching, the day will run smoothly – a gentle warm nor-wester would help a lot though! Because of the 7 aside, the canteen will not be open on Tuesday but the Year 8 students/parents are running a shop to raise funds for their camp in term 4 so feel free to support them.

Neil Wilkinson  
Principal



### ROLL OF HONOUR

C = Caverhill  
H = Hamilton  
M = Mitchell

	House
Eli de Kwant	H
Hannah Forbes	H
Sean Murphy	H
Sarah Eastmond	H

### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

The envelopes for ordering school photos have been distributed to all students today. Please have these orders returned to the school office no later than Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June.

### ART SUPPLIES WANTED

Over the next five weeks students in Year 9 Art are going to be looking at the effects of rubbish and the environment.

We are looking for donations of 'creative' rubbish. If you have any that you are willing to part with please drop it off or send it into the main office or art room at school.

'Creative' rubbish examples: fencing wire, pipes, cans, plastic wrapping, gumboots, plastic strapping, wooden boxes, etc.

### WANTED

We need more newspapers for Art please, if you have any you can spare please drop them into the school office.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Year 7-13 Subject Night 4-6pm Hurunui Primary 7 aside PTA Meeting
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b> <b>26<sup>th</sup></b> <b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	ICAS Spelling & Writing Year 1-6 Quiz Work Experience Week
<b>JULY 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Term 2 Ends</b> Mufti Day – House Colours, House Songs SI Secondary Swimming SI Secondary Swimming SI Area Schools Tournament SI Netball Tournament
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b> <b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	TERM 3 Begins
<b>Looking Ahead</b> <b>July 31<sup>st</sup></b> <b>November 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Teacher Only Day–SCHOOL CLOSED Teacher Only Day–SCHOOL CLOSED

### Dental Care over the School Holidays

The Community Dental Service will operate an emergency service over the school holidays. This service is to provide relief of pain only and will not undertake 'routine' treatment. The service will be available each working day from 8:30am until 12:30pm from the Oral Health Centre, 16 Tuam Street, Christchurch for the following times:

Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> July – Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2009 (excluding weekends)

This service will operate by appointment only and if we are unable to see your child, alternative options will be given. If your child has dental pain as a result of an accident please contact your dentist in the first instance.

You can phone and make an appointment for the emergency clinic by ringing 364 1860. Alternatively, your school dental clinic phone will have a message on how to access emergency care.

## PTA News

PTA meeting on Tuesday 23rd at 7.30pm in the school staff room, all welcome

We have been quiet over the last few months with just a few catering jobs, but now is a good time to start thinking about this years major fundraisers, we have had a contract offered to us for calves this year, BUT they have to be Friesian Bull calves with five white points and be available a fortnight earlier than last year, its not impossible to achieve this, and it is a great fundraiser for our school, those who did a calf or lamb last year will be contacted this year towards the end of July.

Remember your support, supports your child.

## CDHB Influenza A (H1N1) Update – 10 June 2009

**If you think you may have influenza A (H1N1) “Swine Flu” stay put – dial a doctor or Healthline...don’t just turn up at a medical centre or hospital**

Director of Public Health, Dr Mark Jacobs says it’s important that people who think they may have influenza A (H1N1) Swine Flu, stay put and phone for medical advice first. “When someone turns up to see their GP without phoning first, and is infectious with influenza A (H1N1) there’s potential for the virus to spread to others in the waiting room,” Dr Jacobs said. There are two groups of people who need to heed this advice:

1. People who have returned from overseas (in the past seven days) and become unwell with influenza symptoms
2. People who are close contacts of a confirmed case of influenza A (H1N1) and develop influenza symptoms. (This can include family, or people who live in the same household, workmates, friends and other people who they have had close contact with while they were infectious.)

“This week we have had to isolate members of the public who were in a waiting room, along with staff from medical centres who came into close contact with a person who is now a confirmed case,” Dr Jacobs said.

The influenza virus spreads very easily – via droplets in the air when a person coughs or sneezes and doesn’t cover it up. The germs can live on hard surfaces for 48 hours.

“Our advice is to cover up your coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Put it in a bin straight away. If you don’t have a tissue handy, bend your arm and sneeze into your elbow to stop germs spreading through the air. Wash and dry your hands thoroughly, particularly after coughing or sneezing. It’s also important to stay away from sick people...and if you’re sick, stay at home. “The most important thing for people to remember is if they believe they may have Influenza A (H1N1) to phone first – dial a doctor! Don’t just turn up at a doctor’s surgery or hospital. If you’re unsure about your symptoms or what to do...phone Healthline 0800 611 116 for free advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week,” Dr Jacobs said.

### **Symptoms of Influenza**

Symptoms can include fever and chills, a cough, sore throat, body aches and pains, headache, extreme tiredness, and a sore chest. Some people may also suffer vomiting and diarrhoea.

Doctors are reporting an increase in the number of people presenting at surgeries with influenza symptoms.

In the main, these are people who have not travelled overseas and are likely to be experiencing the usual symptoms of winter coughs, colds and seasonal influenza.

However it is important to remind people who have

recently travelled overseas and who develop flu-like symptoms within seven days of returning, not to present to the doctors surgery or hospital emergency department in the first instance. Instead these people should phone their doctor or Healthline for medical advice. Turning up unannounced at a GP’s surgery or hospital risks spreading the virus. Anyone unsure about symptoms and what to do should phone Healthline 0800 611 116. The influenza virus spreads very easily – via droplets in the air when a person coughs or sneezes and doesn’t cover it up. The germs can live on hard surfaces for 48 hours.

## **HURUNUI YOUTH PROGRAMME – 12-18 YEAR OLDS**

### **Hip Hop Classes**

First Class in Culverden.

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> July 09

Time: 3.30pm

Place: Amuri School Gym

Cost: \$8

### **School Holidays**

#### **Ice Skating Trip**

Date: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July

More details to follow soon.

### **Short Film/ Movie Making Course**

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2009

Time: 10am- 4pm

Where: Hurunui College – Computer Room

Limited to 14 people so be in quick to register.

**To register for any of these activities or for more information contact Sam Lynn at**

**[sam.lynn@hurunui.govt.nz](mailto:sam.lynn@hurunui.govt.nz) or on 027 427 1087.**

## **40 hour Famine**

The week before and after the Famine weekend saw 90 students from Amuri Area School taking part in the famine.

It was great to see students participating from Year 3 right up to Year 11. The junior and senior discos held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May were a highlight for the Faminers, a lot of fun and a huge success, a special thanks to our DJ Mr Alino.

A very big thank you to the local businesses that helped out generously by donating food and prizes:

**Culverden Four Square**

**CRT Culverden**

**Waiau Four Square**

**Eastmond Engineering**

**Bella Vista Motel Hanmer**

Also not to forget the parents, teachers and community members who helped out, making the Famine and Social possible.

Congratulations to the students who took part, together we raised over \$2000 – we have all helped make a difference to someone’s life.

There are still some students who have not returned their books, if they could please return them to the office ASAP even if they did not do the Famine. Thanks.