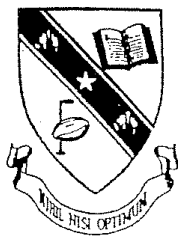


# Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka  
Nothing But The Best*

***Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence***

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NEWSLETTER NO 21

Week Ending 24<sup>th</sup> July 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

It's been a busy start to the term in one way or another but we have welcomed a number of new students and staff this week:

Maria, Gabriel and Dora Laender have joined Years 12, 11 and 9 respectively, Stella, Angelo and Neil Sales have joined Years 10, 3 and 1, Zahn Woollaston-Pokai has joined Year 9 while Reeve and William Neill will come under the tender care of Miss Hoban and Mrs Habgood in Room 2. (Interestingly enough, this means that in Room 2 there are now 3 sets of twins!) On the staff side, Nicola Gray has taken up residence in Room 9, Louise Davy is in Room 10 and Alan Cox has been appointed to fill the RTLB role for the remainder of the year. We hope all these people enjoy being a part of our community.

The holidays were a busy time for many:

- The formal was a fabulous event and the students looked stunning. Their behaviour was as expected and congratulations to the organising team under Shanelle Todd's leadership for a great night at a great venue with great food and great students and staff.
- Our Year 9 & 10 netball team with Debbie Gross coaching and Caroline Eastmond managing, were placed 14<sup>th</sup> out of 26 teams in the Christchurch tournament and this was a great effort winning 4 games and losing 4 with two of these by less than 3 goals. Well done to all.
- The 15 students who played in the South Island Area Schools tournament as part of the CASA team enjoyed their games and represented us with pride. While our results were mixed, several students were nominated for South Island teams at the end of the tournament – Gerard Beaven, Richard Earl, William Duncan, Josh Phillips in rugby, Nicole Eastmond and Megan Williamson in netball.

- Josh Phillips spent a week at Burnham as part of an Army work experience week which he found very rewarding and motivating.
- The builders working on H Block have been very busy and you can certainly see where they have been!

The death of Seddon Bennington last week was a tragedy and a grim reminder of the dangers of NZ tramping. A lot has been said in the media but how many of you are aware that Seddon attended school here where he was the dux in 1963 and his favourite subject was Biology. It was noted in his obituary that 'It was a Science teacher at his school in Culverden where he was dux who, Dr Bennington once said, first opened up a fascinating realm of possibilities' and it is a reminder of two things – as teachers, we do have the ability to inspire students and that students schooled in the Amuri can go on and do anything.

Congratulations go to some of our rugby students. The Amuri teams are enjoying a highly successful season with trophies residing here with the Under 16, Under 13 and Under 11.5 grade teams while the Under 14 and Under 18 teams have both held trophies during the season.

- Jim Smith, Jacob Vincent, Toby Walker and Jordi Grant have been selected for the Under 65kg team
- Tim Chaffey, Brent Dalley and Tom Northcote have been selected for the Under 48kg team

Our new Achiever of the Month is Richard Earl who is a most deserved recipient. Crowned as 'King of the Formal' and the male side of the Cutest Couple, a star of the CASA rugby team whose covering and speed work is incredible and a highly reliable and genial whanau leader, Richard is a star in the senior school and a student who always gives 'nothing but his best'.

One of the changes this term to our programme is we have scheduled the Year 10 exams in the second last week of term. Exams will be held in Maths, English, Social Studies and Science and have been placed here because the end of term 4 is too busy for all and the results may influence subject choice for Year 11. They will be held with the Year 11 – 13 exams that are traditionally held at this time and more detail will be issued at a later date.

The Board met last night and some of the decisions made were:

- Staff spending requests were approved along with agreement to assist with the upgrade of the swimming pool, a major project of the PTA.
- Following a carefully considered request from the student executive, it was agreed to add a plain black scarf to the uniform permitted to be worn and this will take effect from the start of 2010 with no other colour able to be worn.
- An upgrade to the water supply at Windy Point will be installed (just a reminder that you are welcome to book this facility for yourself and/or your family).
- The procedures outlined in recent newsletters were adopted including the changes contained in a recent newsletter for the Emergency closure of the school.

Today, it will be interesting to see if any Whanau has become a millionaire at our lunchtime activity! Next week, it's good luck to our four Year 12 students who are away on a snow caving course at Arthurs Pass and just a reminder, that the school will be having a teacher only day on Friday. There will be a short newsletter issued next Thursday.

Neil Wilkinson  
Principal

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>28<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Bus Monitor Training
<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	Teacher Only Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
<b>4<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Myojo Gakuen School Arrives
	ICAS English
	PTA Meeting
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	CCHS Indoor
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	Lunchtime Activity–Impromptu Speeches
	SISS Indoor Cricket
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	SISS Indoor Cricket
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	Oliver Heuchel Arrives (ICYE)
<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	Lunchtime Activity-Recycling
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	Myojo Gakuen Departs
	CHCH Music Festival – Rehearsal
<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	ICAS Maths
<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	Lunchtime Activity-Wheel of Fortune
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Leonard and the Lottery Ticket Musical

**Looking Ahead**  
**November 12<sup>th</sup>** Teacher Only Day–SCHOOL CLOSED

## The Amuri Community Arts Council's Art Competition 2009

The age categories are:

8 to 11 yrs 12 to 14 yrs 15 to 18 yrs 19 to 99 + yrs  
Please collect an entry form from the Amuri Community Library or Hanmer Springs Library.

There is a \$5 entry fee for this competition. Please give to librarian with your entry.

**See Main Office notice board for more information**



## Movie Night!

**Culverden Community Hall**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July**

**6.30pm**

**\$3**

**(Pop- Corn + Equipment Costs)**

**Bring your own seat (e.g. Cushion, beanbag etc)**

**There will be refreshments available**

**For more information contact Sam on 0274271087 or email sam.lynn@hurunui.govt.nz**

### AMURI COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The Amuri Community Library Committee is due to hold its Annual General Meeting in August and it is felt that it would be an appropriate time to explain the purpose of this committee to the community, particularly to library users and parents of school pupils.

As laid out in the constitution some of the objectives of the society are

- To provide the Amuri community and the Amuri Area School with the opportunity to integrate and cooperate through the sharing of the Amuri Area School Library and the Hurunui District Library facilities.
- To provide all sections of the community with the opportunity to use and enjoy the library as part of their lifelong education.
- To provide a range of library resources for all sections of the community to give access to public information.
- To encourage the community and the school to work together in support of the objectives of the school charter and the Hurunui District Council Heads of Agreement.
- To recruit volunteer Library Staff as required.

For this community committee to continue, some new faces are needed at our AGM.

If you would like to know more and would be interested in being involved please come to the

**AGM Thursday 13 August 3.30pm in the Library**

Enquiries phone: Library 315 8946

Liz 315 8230 (Chairperson)

Judy 315 8242 (Secretary)