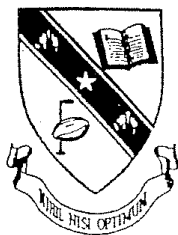


Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka
Nothing But The Best*

Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence

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NEWSLETTER NO 4

Week Ending 27th February 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

The student executive met for the first time last Friday and established the recipients for at least four mufti days this year and it is pleasing to see them supporting groups that help others in need. Today we held our first mufti day with the funds raised going to the Australian Bushfire appeal while future days will support St Johns, the Heart Foundation and Loud Shirt Day. The executive are an important part of our school community and Jaz and Anna will do a great job chairing their meetings and getting student feedback when offered or needed during the year.

The Year 9's have been on camp this week and Miss Heaps had an action packed programme for the students to take part in whilst at Windy Point. Mr Barbour who visited the group for a sing-a-long on Wednesday night reported the group was working well and having a great time despite uncooperative weather. Today the Year 5 & 6 students are there working with the Year 12 Phys Ed class and Mr Cate on a series of activities developing leadership skills. A big thanks goes to Miss Heaps, Miss den Haring, Mr Anink, Mr Cate and Mr Weis along with the senior leaders for their time and effort to offer the students this opportunity to experience life in a different environment.

The primary swimming display was fitted in between showers on Monday and thanks to all the parents who came along and supported the students as they floated, star-fished, swam underwater and had a good time displaying what they have done this year. While the water may have been cold, the support and encouragement was warm with a good time had by all.

On Monday we also enjoyed the music of the St Andrews school symphonic band and string group as they gave their annual concert on their way home from a weekend camp at Hanmer. There is quite a bit happening musically here this term with the CCHS

Music Festival the highlight on Friday April 3rd but before then we will be visited by a group from Australia and on Saturday March 28th a group of musicians from here will be entertaining in Hanmer at 2pm – more details later.

The Year 7 & 8 Milo Cup cricket team played Waipara on Tuesday and came out winners advancing to the next round of the competition against Loburn. Tom Northcote 15 not out, Jack Anderson 14, and Fergus McIntosh with 15 all did well with the bat while Tom, Fergus and Sam Grigg all claimed two wickets each in bowling Waipara out for 65.

The Science Alive trip was most worthwhile on Wednesday and the 27 students who went with Mrs Springett enjoyed finding out more from Ruud Kleinpaste about bugs and creepy creatures – watch out for strange insects in bamboo shoots now! Thanks to all parents for assistance with travel, Miss den Haring for arranging the trip and Mrs Springett for looking after the group on the day.

Wednesday was a busy day with our swimmers competing in the CCHS event at QE2 and a big thanks to Kathryn Duncan for managing the group. Hannah Coughlan (4), Josh Hickey (2), Nicole Eastmond (2), William Duncan (4) and Claire King (2) all won events with Willie Steele, Elliot Hughey, Lucy Brustad, Takeisha Burt, Beau Galletly, Fergus McIntosh, Kendall Bond, Rachel Lambeth, Scott Higgins and Abby Fleming all gaining 2nds and/or 3rds. Perhaps the most exciting event was the Under 16 Girls 50m freestyle where Nicole touched .03 of a second ahead of Claire! Thanks again to all parents who helped with transport.

Next week sees the Hurunui swimming event on Tuesday and we all have our fingers crossed for a lovely fine day – good luck to all competing. On the same day it also seems that the Milo Cup team will take on Loburn school at the Willows ground. The

Year 7's head away on camp on Wednesday for three days and Miss Buchan and Mrs Gardner have a great time planned for the students, again with the support of senior leaders. Wednesday also sees the start of the students involvement in the Christchurch cricket, soccer and netball competitions so all the best to these teams.

Last year you might recall that form teachers conducted a survey around receipt of the newsletter and here is a summary of the responses (sorry about the late notice):

- 162 families responded which is almost 100% of our families
- 53% said they get the newsletter every week
- 33% said they do not get it or they only get it sometimes
- 60% now receive the newsletter by e mail
- Only 3% read it on the school website

While I know that if you are one of the 33% it is unlikely you are reading this, the newsletter is our best form of communication home because you know it comes every Friday. Please insist on having it brought home and if you would like to join those receiving it by email, ring or email the office to ensure consistent and timely delivery.

The review of school procedures continues this week and if you would like to read one or more of the procedures listed elsewhere with a view to making a comment for the Board to consider before approval, please contact the office. This week's procedure on buses advises that if we have to send the buses home early because of weather, we would allow students in Year 9 and above to travel without having contacted parents first and that we would allow younger siblings to go with them. If you have a view on this or any other part of the procedures, this is your opportunity to let us know so that the Board can consider your thoughts.

Neil Wilkinson
Principal

Pool Party



Where: Culverden Swimming Pool

Date: Friday 27th February 2009

Time: 6.30- 9pm

Cost: \$3.00

Who: Youth aged 12-18 years

Why: For some summer FUN

There will be a BBQ, Music and giveaways!

For more information contact Sam Lynn, Youth Programme Coordinator on 0274271087, or sam.lynn@hurunui.govt.nz

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mar 3rd
4th – 6th
7th
10th
11th
12th
17th
21st

Hurunui HPSSA Swimming
Year 7 Camp
Amuri Show Day
Canterbury Swimming Prelims
CCHS Athletics
Canterbury Swimming Finals
Canterbury Athletics Prelims
Canterbury Athletics Finals



Craig Springett with a giant Weta at Science Alive for the Bug Connection Expo.

Swimming Championship Records Broken 2009



Apologies to Kayla Baker who was the record breaker in the Primary Girls 50 yd butterfly at the swimming sports with a time of 1.03.40.

Procedures for Review this week

- Health and Safety
- Religious Education in Schools
- Travel on School Buses
- Medication at School
- Theft & Fraud Prevention

Amberley AFC

Soccer Player Registration Day

Thursday 5th March 2009

4.00-6.00pm

@ Amberley Domain, Douglas Road

Queries to Phillipa Watkins

ph. 03 314 7279



ICAS (Australasian) Exams 2009

Following the success of many students last year we are pleased to be offering the opportunity to participate in these exams again in 2009. A notice can be collected from the school office.

Subject	Date of exam	Year levels	cost
Computer skills	27 th May	4-13	\$7.50
Science	10 th June	4-8	\$7.50
Spelling	23 rd June	4-13	\$9.50
Writing	23 rd June	4-13	\$14.00
English	4 th August	4-13	\$7.50
Mathematics	19 th August	4-11	\$7.50

Please return the form along with payment by 31st March 2009 so we can complete the entry formalities.

If you wish to find out more about the ICAS exams, please feel free to ask me or visit the website:
www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

Thank You, Semantha Springett, Gifted and Talented Students Coordinator.

ITALIAN CLASSES

Are you interested in learning to speak basic Italian?

These Adult Education Classes are to be held at Amberley School with a professional Language Tutor. The faster we get your response, the faster we can get underway. So please register your interest now (no commitment).

Phone Agnisa for more details
03 314 8376



Mountain Safety Canterbury

are running a TAKE A KID TRAMPING WEEKEND. It is designed to be an introduction to the outdoors to encourage the use of and enjoy the outdoors safely.

The child recommended age is 10-14 yrs and the course consists of two evening sessions (30th March & 2nd April 09 at the YMCA Bishopdale) and a weekend away (4/5 April 09). Course costs are \$25 per pair (Adult and child), food and transport are additional.

Forms are available at the school office.



Youth Photography Competition

Calling all 12-18 year olds who live in the Hurunui district!!!

Grab your cameras and send us your best photographs! Entries will be exhibited in the Libraries around the district and the winning photographs will be published in the Hurunui News.

Bring your entries to the Amberley Library, or post them to:

HYP Photo Competition, PO Box 13, Amberley 7441.

Photos must be submitted as hard copies and be no bigger than 8" x 12". Please ensure your name, age, phone number, email, and address are included on the back.

Entries Close: 6th March 2009

A big thank you to our major sponsors so far:

- **The Hurunui News** • • **Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa** •

We would really appreciate hearing from other businesses or individuals who would be interested in sponsoring prizes for this competition. Please contact Sam Lynn on 027 427-1087, or email sam.lynn@hurunui.govt.nz.

A list of sponsors will be published in the Hurunui News along with the winning photographs.



Matthew Fleming and George Black with a giant Weta at Science Alive for the Bug Connection Expo.