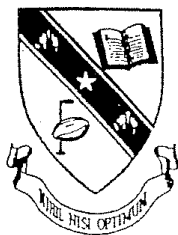


Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka
Nothing But The Best*

Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence

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NEWSLETTER NO 33

Week Ending 30th October 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

What a fantastic array of talent we saw at the primary talent quest last Friday and in a wonderful atmosphere of audience participation, 12 items wowed the crowd. Georgia Benton started the quest off with incredible poise and confidence and her rendition of 'The Cat Came Back' impressed all and she was voted the winner. Closely following on behind, Anna Crean, Emily Hickey and Isabella Neil showed their ballet skills while Kelsey Norrie got the audience up dancing with her and was placed 3rd. All the items were fun and well done to all. This week we enjoyed the Wearable Arts Awards – results next week.

The National Standards announced last week by the Prime Minister have received a mixed reception and I can't tell you much about them as I have yet to get any official information which I find a little disappointing – reading the detail in the Press on Monday isn't how I think schools should find out about such an item given it's importance. While I have no problems with the concept of having standards expected to be met at each age level and reporting against them, I fail to see how doing this will improve student achievement. We await further detail with interest.

Congratulations to Harry Hall who won the Open Triathlon at the Hanmer event last week by 2 seconds over Tim Chaffey and to Fergus McIntosh who gain 5th place. Mairi Mackenzie also won her individual 11 year old girls event while Kayla Baker won her 10 year old girls race. In the 10 year old teams race both of our teams won their races – team members were Anna Crean, Emilee Hickey and Finn Cunningham, Lewys Francis, Finn Wakefield and Casey Smith.

We were blessed with a fine day on Wednesday for the school athletic sports and thanks to Mr Cate, Mr Morrison and Mr Bailey for all their work to make the

day successful. With great support from parents (thanks to all who attended) and staff who officiated, some close competition was appreciated and the inter-whanau competition and championship race is very close with the 1500m, 3000m and some high jump events to go next week.

We have issued the senior subject selection sheets to students and with parents, the Year 10, 11 and 12 students are now choosing subjects for 2010. One of the problems caused by an increasing roll at these levels is that providing courses for all students becomes slightly more difficult and while we have offered a line up that meets the requests of most students, there will be some with clashes of subjects. Please do come and talk with Mrs Mossman if this is the case because our staff are always prepared to try and accommodate students' needs if it can be done. For the record, here are the subjects we are offering and the list is quite impressive:

Level 1	English, Maths, Science, Information Processing, Social Sciences, Employment Skills, Design and Build, Graphics, Hospitality, Art, Phys Ed
Level 2	English, Maths, Chemistry, Information Management, Biology, Employment Skills, Art, Photography, Textiles, Phys Ed, Physics, Carpentry, Geography,
Level 3	Maths with Calculus, Maths with Statistics, English, Physics, Phys Ed, Art, Biology, Chemistry, Agriculture/Horticulture

Next week I will outline possible Year 9 and 10 class options.

It was a privilege to be invited to attend the Celia Lashlie presentation at Waiau on Tuesday night and

along with a large crowd, I enjoyed Celia's thoughts on how to make sure our young boys became great men. She stressed the need for firm boundaries and being prepared to say 'No' in raising adolescents and if you would like to hear what she said, I have a CD you can borrow. The need for schools, parents and the community to work together was also a theme relevant to us and thanks to Marina Shearer and the Waiiau people who had the initiative to bring Celia to our part of the world.

The PTA also met on Tuesday and confirmed final arrangements for the Trail ride next Sunday. We hope for our usual fine day and with plenty of interest in the event, are expecting large numbers. This does mean we need helpers for the day and if you could offer an hour or more of assistance, please contact the school office this week.

Next week we will be testing all Year 4 – 10 students using the asTTLe programme and students should be able to tell you their scores after Show Weekend when we consider their progress against the goals they set at the start of this year. Currently we are working on the design of an 'e portfolio' for all students in Years 4 – 10 to use next year where they set goals, consider their asTTLe, STAR and numeracy testing progress and record examples of their work to share with you at the learning conferences. This is an exciting development in our desire to work with both you and the students to raise their achievement – more about this later.

Neil Wilkinson
Principal

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
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

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
Ben Parkinson	H
Brent Dalley	H

1ST MERIT CERTIFICATE

Ben Parkinson	H
Brent Dalley	H
Damian Archbold	H
Sarah Eastmond	H
Emilee Hickey	C
Toby Sloan	M
Nikola van Petegem-Gorrie	

2ND MERIT CERTIFICATE

Damian Archbold	H
Anna Crean	M

Sunhats for Sale – from the Primary Office
between 8.30am – 8.45am daily

Two styles available:

“Bucket” Hat with 6cm brim - \$7

“Slouch” Hat with 7.5cm brim - \$10

Available in House Colours – Red/Green/Yellow

HYP - Year 7 and 8 Social

Friday 6th November
Culverden Community Room
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM Sam on Monday at 1.30
outside the Academy. \$3 per ticket. No door sales.

Anyone wanting more please contact Sam Lynn on
0274271087 or sam.lynn@hurunui.govt.nz

Procedures for Review:

The following procedures are currently under review. You can collect a copy from the main office if you are interested in making any suggestions:

- Placement of Students in Classes and Courses
- School Swimming Pool
- Equity
- Police Vetting
- Behaviour Management System
- Performance Management System Overview

PTA News

Many thanks to all those who have offered baking for our trail ride, it's greatly appreciated, but more is required.

Thanks to the 3 people who have offered to help on the day. We need more people to help cook lunch, mark riders in and out, and sit out on the track during the day, even a half day is very helpful (free lunch included).

If we don't get the support and help required to run the trail ride, it may well be our last, without help, we cannot run this day. (We make on average between \$5000- to \$7500 per ride, and you need to remember that its all outside money.)

If you can help at all please ring JJ on 315 8661 or Louise on 315 8150, or drop baking off to Christine.

Calf Scheme

By now you should have contacted Cath Calder about TB testing your calf, if not please do so ASAP. Calves will be collected on November 18th, some time during the day (you will be contacted).

Social night is November 27th at the rugby rooms.

Any questions or problems please ring Tania on 315 8286

Remember your support, supports your child.

Waiau Community FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA

*A great family night
out!*

Saturday 31st October

Waiau Rugby Club Grounds.

Gates open at 5pm.

\$10 entry per person, max \$40 per car.



This year...it's Halloween!

- ▶ Prizes for best fancy dress PLUS
- ▶ Jack-o-Lantern competition

Spectacular fireworks display let off at dark.

*No dogs or personal fireworks,
INCLUDING SPARKLERS.
Police presence.*

**Cancellation decision made by 2pm
Listen to: Newstalk ZB and MoreFM**

*General Enquiries: Caroline Eastmond
315 6173*

Senior School News

2010 Course Selection

All the year 10-12 students are making their final course selections this week. The arrangement of subjects has been prepared on the information given by students in the first selection round. You may have noticed that there are some significant changes in the choices available this year; this has been done with serious consideration of those students best suited to a more vocationally focused course and hopefully leave the straight achievement standard courses for those genuinely motivated to higher level academic achievement. Some of the Academy Courses have number limits so if demand exceeds spaces all students interested will have to complete a written application and be interviewed. If you have any concerns about helping your child choose the best course please contact me at school, we however do have the final say on what level and in some cases what subject a student will be studying. All senior courses lead towards an NCEA qualification.

Uniform

We are genuinely surprised and a bit bemused at the number of students who have lost their polar fleece. Can families who have this problem please investigate and hopefully solve this mystery as soon as possible, or if necessary purchase a new one. The office has a well stocked supply at present plus a few unnamed and unclaimed ones. Please make sure uniform items are well named to ensure the prompt return of items we find at school.

Athletic Sports

Well done to all of those students who competed in the athletic sports on Wednesday. It was pleasing to see a good number of supportive parents and grandparents enjoying the day as well. On a happy finishing note it was a golden day for Mitchell....

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

