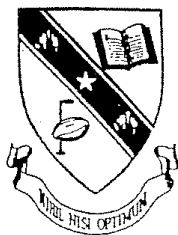


Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka
Nothing But The Best*

Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence

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NEWSLETTER NO 1

Week Ending 5th February 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

I have a feeling that 2009 is going to be a terrific year for Amuri Area School and this is based on a staff who are enthused and excited as seen in their preparation and staffroom talk, wonderful student leaders as seen in their work this week in training on Monday and at the inter-form challenge and ground improvements around the site, obvious to all to make the school a better place. Our new school vision for the next three years is achievable and with everyone singing off the same song sheet, you can be assured that we are well placed to provide a top quality rounded education experience for all students.

Our School Vision

Amuri Area School is a positive and supportive community that seeks to develop self disciplined learners to become independent and responsible citizens who always give nothing but their best.

Firstly a very warm welcome to our new students and staff. We hope they all enjoy being a part of our community and I know all feel that they have been welcomed warmly - we have 13 new students who have enrolled from outside the Amuri area. Rebecca Cunningham has joined us from Kaikoura to teach Art and Employment Skills and her enthusiasm is contagious.



Debby Gross will be teaching Year 7 & 8 Phys Ed and will be closely involved with sport while Scott Weis is our ICYE student this half year all the way from Seattle.



Lyn Oberholzer will be supporting students on both sides of the road as a teacher aide and while Kay Kennedy is away on study leave for the year, Louise Davy from Rangiora New Life will be assuming the role of RTLB. In addition, Siobhan Williamson is back this term to assist with literacy and numeracy in the primary school while Kylee Habgood and Kylie Barbour continue to provide primary staff release time. Claire McCarthy will also be working to boost literacy and numeracy with Year 7 & 8 students this term.

Back to 2008 and it's well done to Baden Petrie who set a personal best in the 200m at the NZ Secondary Schools Athletics event in Hamilton last year, William Duncan who finished 9th in the triple jump and Ethan Vincent who was in the top half of a large discus field. The boys can look forward to this year's athletic events knowing they can compete at that level. Special thanks to Mr Cate for his support and arrangements to get there.

NCEA went well for us too and showed that students from Amuri can and do achieve highly. Our two stars were Anna Duncan at Year 12 and Ben Parkinson at Year 11 who both gained Merit Endorsements on their certificate but Merits and Excellences were a feature of many students results. 9 out of 13 students here on November 1st gained Level 1 while 7 out of 10 entered for Level 2 gained it.

Leadership remains a focus for us this year and Tina Heaps has been allocated a management unit to oversee this role in 2009. She has got off to a

fabulous start with a very successful training day for the senior leaders on Monday and an extremely well organised inter-form challenge on Tuesday saw the new students merged into their form groups and teamwork developed. (For the record, GCC were placed 1st in the event with ADM 2nd and RCH 3rd). The primary school also elected their leaders on Monday and have agreed to follow the secondary model of whanau meetings every second Wednesday to build up house spirit and competitiveness! Our head students also spoke very impressively at assembly on Tuesday and we are all looking forward to their work this year. For the record, this years leaders are:

Head Students

- Anna Duncan
- Jaz Mathisen

Whanau Leaders:

- Caverhill – Matt Saunders, Richard Coughlan, Nadine Hendry, Craig Springett, Seb McCarthy
- Hamilton – Jaz Mathisen, Anna Duncan, Richard Earl, Jaimee Summerell, Louise Schwass,
- Mitchell – Gerard Beaven, Shanelle Todd, Zoe Topp, Danleigh Todd, Bryton Simpson

Form Leaders

- Nadine Hendry BAC
- Matt Saunders SSC
- Channell Sutherland ATC
- Sam Hooper GCC
- Hayley Campbell THM
- Gerard Beaven KRM
- Shanelle Todd CAM
- Chloe Bailey ADM
- William Duncan GPH
- Nicole Eastmond RCH
- Richard Earl EBH
- Amy Abernethy SBH

Many of us have been feeling the hunger pangs a little this week as we get to grips with the new period and bell times! The primary school are having a 'snack break' at 9.45 each morning and can I encourage you to provide a healthy option in this time such as fruit rather than chips or processed food. The timetable is shown here:

Year 1-6

Entry to the grounds	8.30
Period 1/Assembly	8.45
Snack Break	9.45
Period 2	9.55
First Break	10.55
Period 3	11.20
Period 4	12.20
Second Break	1.20
Period 5	2.05
Finish/Bus Prep	3.00

Year 7-13

Entry to the grounds	8.30
Warning Bell	8.40
Form time/Assembly/Whanau	8.45
Period 1	8.55
Period 2	9.55
First Break	10.55
Warning Bell	11.15
Period 3	11.20
Period 4	12.20
Second Break	1.20
Warning Bell	2.00
Period 5	2.05
End of School Day	3.05

Our swimming sports are coming up on Wednesday February 18th and we are considering a suggestion from the Cancer Society that we start our sports at 2pm on that day and run until 7pm. This would mean that school would not operate as usual and buses would collect students for a 2pm start and take them home at 7pm where parents were not in attendance with the day spent at the pool. We would hold all school events on this day including the primary displays, heats and finals with the finals being held after 5pm. There would be continuous action and food would be available at the pool. If you have a view on this proposal, please ring or send me an e mail with your thoughts – we will confirm by next week what is happening.

Reporting to parents (and students) is also a process under review at present and Mrs Cleeve is chairing a group of parents, staff and students to consider our term 1 reporting process. We intend running conferences again in week 7 of term 2 but the old style of reporting in March/April (focussed on how your son/daughter has settled into school) is probably unnecessary given that we should have rung you if there were any problems. Again, if you have any thoughts on this topic, e mail or contact the school.

Work around the grounds is coming along nicely and the contractor hopes to have his work finished by the swimming sports – this would be an opportunity then to have a walk around and see what has been done. The courts are now finished completely, the bus turnaround is almost ready for sealing and the library car park is taking shape rapidly. Outside the gym more shade has been created and we now await the tender process to start on H Block improvements. We have another gardening job to do in the library car park so watch this space for a time and date!

From time to time someone is needed to run the Canteen – last year we had approximately 10 days where this was needed and we had to cover from the office. If there is a parent who would be interested in providing short term relief on a casual paid basis please phone the office to discuss training and terms – there is a need next week!

The second running of the Culverden Duathlon is being held tomorrow and thanks to all who have

entered or offered to help. (It's not too late to enter!) We are hoping for fine weather and if you'd like to see the action, call at the rugby grounds between 9.30am and 11.30am.

Finally Mrs Cleeve dropped me off 12 polar fleeces left at the primary school at the end of last year. If one of these could be yours, call in and check – if they are not claimed within two weeks, they will be put in the second hand uniform market. Perhaps it's time to make sure your son/daughters clothes are all named clearly.

Neil Wilkinson
Principal

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEB 6th	WAITANGI DAY School Closed Culverden Duathlon
17th	PTA Meeting
18th	Swimming Sports (time to be confirmed)
23rd - 26th	Year 9 Camp – Windy Point
23rd	St Andrews Music Concert
24th	Y7 & 8 Milo Cup Cricket – Amuri
25th	CCHS Swimming
Mar 3rd	Hurunui HPSSA Swimming
4th – 6th	Year 7 Camp
7th	Amuri Show Day

School Text Book Amnesty

We would very much appreciate the swift return of any textbooks used in previous years to the school office. This would be of great benefit to students.

GUITAR TUITION

Guitar lessons with Mr Phil Garland will recommence on Monday 9th February 2009. All new enquiries welcome.

Pupils wishing to continue their tuition please phone Phil on 315 8324 ASAP to confirm times.

Tuition fees are as follows - \$12 per lesson pay as you go or Full 9 week term payable in advance - \$108



Head Lice

- Please be aware that there are nits in the Primary school and that you need to check your child / children regularly. For more information on Head Lice you can visit www.liceefreenaturally.com.au

We are having our annual Air Force Museum Open Day on Sunday 8th February 2009, 10am - 4pm. This day promises to be a fun-filled and exciting day for all of the family with;

- Red Checkers & Kiwi Blue Aerobatic Displays
- Iroquois & Sioux Helicopters
- Orion & Boeing 757
- Hercules & Harvard
- Historic Aircraft on display
- Army, Navy & Air Force recruiters
- FREE Museum entry
- FREE car parking

Cervical Cancer Vaccination for Girls

Most of you will have heard about the cervical cancer vaccine that is being offered to all girls aged 12 to 18 years. The vaccine can help protect them from the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) that is the main cause of cervical cancer. In Canterbury this vaccine is being delivered FREE through General Practices rather than at schools. Your daughter will receive an invitation from your usual doctors surgery to come and have their vaccination, or you can ring and organize a time that suits.

Three injections in the upper arm over six months are required to complete the course. If you have any questions please call the Practice Nurse at your General Practice. If you do not have a doctor you are welcome to go to any General Practice for this vaccination. For more information visit www.cervicalcancervaccine.govt.nz or call 0200 IMMUNE (466 863)

SCHOOL CANTEEN ORDER LIST

Name: _____

Class: _____

	Number	Price
Filled Roll or Tortilla Wrap (please circle)		\$3.50
Fillings: (please circle) Ham / lettuce / mayo / tomato / cheese / carrot		
Toasted Sandwiches: choose from the following fillings: Cheese/Ham/Onion/Tomato		
1, 2 or 3 Fillings		\$1.20 / \$1.60 / \$2.00
Hot Dog in Bun with tomato sauce / mustard / cheese (circle)		\$2.00
Spaghetti Bun with ham / cheese		\$1.70
Nachoes with chilli beans, cheese & sour cream		\$3.50
Mince Pie large ✓		\$2.20
Murphy ✓		\$2.00
Pizza ✓		\$2.20
Sausage Roll		\$1.70
Chicken Pie (small) ✓		\$1.50
Apple Pie ✓		\$1.50
Noodles - beef / chicken (please circle)		\$2.20
Fruit & Nut bag		\$1.00
Corn Chips cheese / mexican (please circle)		\$1.30
Munchoes cheese 'n' onion / spicy tomato (please circle)		\$1.30
Popcorn (small)		\$0.50
Cookie Time		\$1.00
Rookie Cookie		\$0.60
Flavoured Water raspberry / lemon & lime (please circle)		\$1.70
Primo Flavoured milk 350ml choc / choc crunch (please circle)		\$1.50
Calcium 250ml choc / strawberry / banana (please circle)		\$1.20
Simply Squeezed Orange Juice		\$2.50
Mill Orchard Juice orange-apple / apple-boysenberry (please circle)		\$1.70
Moosies choc / blumoon / strawberry (please circle) ✓		\$1.20
Juicies lemonade / tropical / wildberry (please circle) ✓		\$0.80
Slurpa's apple / apple-orange / apple-boysenberry (please circle)		\$1.00
	Total	

✓ = Heart Foundation Tick Approved

** Gluten Free menu available at the canteen.

First Break / Second Break - (please circle for when you want your food)

SCHOOL CANTEEN ORDER LIST

Name: _____

Class: _____

	Number	Price
Filled Roll or Tortilla Wrap (please circle)		\$3.50
Fillings: (please circle) Ham / lettuce / mayo / tomato / cheese / carrot		
Toasted Sandwiches: choose from the following fillings: Cheese/Ham/Onion/Tomato		
1, 2 or 3 Fillings		\$1.20 / \$1.60 / \$2.00
Hot Dog in Bun with tomato sauce / mustard / cheese (circle)		\$2.00
Spaghetti Bun with ham / cheese		\$1.70
Nachoes with chilli beans, cheese & sour cream		\$3.50
Mince Pie large ✓		\$2.20
Murphy ✓		\$2.00
Pizza ✓		\$2.20
Sausage Roll		\$1.70
Chicken Pie (small) ✓		\$1.50
Apple Pie ✓		\$1.50
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Fruit & Nut bag		\$1.00
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	Total \$	

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