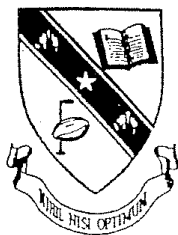


Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka
Nothing But The Best*

Raising Achievement, Encouraging Excellence

PHONE (03) 315 8233

E-mail Principal@amuri.school.nz

NEWSLETTER NO 5

FAX (03) 315 8476

Week Ending 6th March 2009

Kia ora Parents and Guardians

The weather has again created some difficulties for us with Milo Cup cricket and Hurunui primary swimming events having to be postponed this week. However it has come to the party as the Year 7's have gone to their three day camp at Hanmer Forest Park and they were having a marvellous time on Wednesday as they took part in a wide range of activities. The swimming was held yesterday (after the newsletter was written so results next week) and the Milo Cup will be played on Monday.

Last week the Amuri learning community proved what a great place it is with their support for the Australian bushfire appeal where the mufti day raised \$237 - well done to all.

An indoor pool for the CCHS Swimming event meant that last weeks event proceeded and from this day we have five students going to the Canterbury Secondary Schools' preliminaries. William Duncan, Elliot Hughey, Willie Steele, Hannah Coughlan and Josh Hickey will represent the country schools next Tuesday and it's a busy week for William - volleyball after school on Monday, swimming on Tuesday, CCHS athletics on Wednesday and likely to be back swimming on Thursday! And all this after three days as a senior leader at the Year 7 camp this week! Good luck to all the swimmers.

At staff meeting this week we adopted a revised reporting format to give you an interim report on student effort and achievement this term. The format came from a group of staff, students and parents and reports will be sent home on Thursday April 2nd. Following this there will be an opportunity to mini - conference with subject teachers and/or form teachers on Monday April 6th between 4pm and 7pm in the gym so do mark this date on your calendar as we'd love to see you all.

Many students have been busy assembling and preparing to exhibit items at the Amuri show this weekend so if you are attending, do call into the exhibition shed and see the work of students from the whole Amuri area. I have been fortunate enough to visit all the schools in the Amuri this week as we work together to increase the number of relieving teachers available and I have seen some fantastic work being prepared at all the schools. Take a dollar or two as well to support our student group travelling to Bangkok as they run a stall site at the show.

Next week continues the sporting trend - cricket on Monday, swimming on Tuesday and then CCHS athletics on Wednesday where we have 31 students attempting to qualify for the Canterbury Secondary Schools preliminaries the following week. The indoor netball, cricket and soccer teams also play on Wednesday with the volley-ballers playing Monday. Then on Thursday anyone who qualifies from the swimming on Tuesday will be back in Christchurch for the CSS finals!

Elsewhere in the newsletter you will find a report from our Head Students and this will be a twice a term report giving you the student view. It came from the Head Students themselves and is a wonderful idea.

Neil Wilkinson
Principal

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7th	Amuri Show Day
10th	Canterbury Swimming Prelims
11th	CCHS Athletics
12th	Canterbury Swimming Finals
17th	Canterbury Athletics Prelims
21st	Canterbury Athletics Finals
Looking Ahead	
May 21st	Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
July 31st	Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
November 12th	Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED

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.

Head Students' Report

As part of our role as head students this year we have decided to write monthly reports for the local community to inform them of the happenings at Amuri.

This term so far has been full of challenges and adventures.

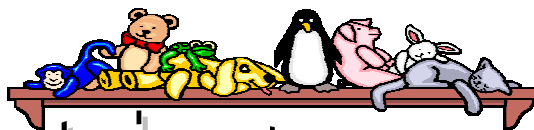
Three weeks into this term we had our annual swimming sports. This event saw many students getting involved in the swimming events even though the weather was not on our side. It was good to see some of the juniors swimming alongside the seniors. Caverhill proved to be unbeatable at swimming for the second year running.

Last week we were privileged enough to attend Year 9 Camp at Windy Point. We enjoyed meeting all of the year nines and we hope they enjoyed getting to know us as well. Being in charge of our own group, has improved our leadership skills and the challenging activities such as rock climbing, canyoning and kayaking made everyone realise their capabilities.

On Monday we visited the junior side during our first break. Here the juniors had us running around madly in a game of tag on the playground. It was a great opportunity to meet and interact with our fellow younger peers. We hope to make it a weekly activity so the juniors have more involvement with the seniors.

We look forward to the rest of this term where we see everyone striving for nothing but their best.

Thanks Jasmine and Anna



Junior school news

- Headlice are still out and about, please check your child/rens hair regularly.
- We've also been informed Impetigo (school sores) has "broken out" on our side. Please visit the doctor so they can be treated accordingly with antibiotics and keep at home for 3 days after treatment begins.
- Could we please have all goal sheets returned as soon as possible.
- Trip to Wigram Airforce Museum – Preliminary Notice

When: 10th June 09

Why: As Part of our "Flying High" theme

How: Bus

Please note: The cost of this could be at least \$25 per child but please DO NOT send any money yet.

Further information will be provided closer to the time.

Canterbury Country High Schools Music Festival 2009

Friday 3rd April

Amuri Area School Gymnasium, Culverden

Commencing at 6 pm



FREE ENTRY

Come along and see this Musical Extravaganza involving very talented students from:

Amuri Area School
Akaroa Area School
Darfield High School
Mt Hutt College
Rangiora New Life School
Oxford Area School
Hurunui College
Cheviot Area School
Kaikoura High School
Ellesmere College



Choir, Concert Band, Strings

Senior School News

It was interesting to read last week a newspaper front page article about employment which stated "A third of businesses are laying off staff and a third are still short of skilled staff" Of course the key factor is skilled and to be skilled requires the use of practical knowledge and ability to do something well. There is no doubt that in the foreseeable future skills and knowledge will be an even bigger factor than they have been in gaining long term employment. Last week I spent two days at Lincoln University at their annual careers advisers update which is an important part of keeping up to date with programmes offered at Lincoln. Apart from the size difference, Lincoln offers many 'applied' degrees and there is still, in this economic environment, a huge demand for their graduates which reinforces the importance of investing in education. As a school community we need to encourage each and every one of our students to engage positively and with purpose in their education, firstly at school and then preferably at a tertiary level to access the skill level required for employment. Knowledge they say is power and we all know about the global recession so let us all endeavour to make sure our students are empowered to cope.

Camps

This week sees Year 7 on camp at Hanmer Springs which brings to an end the Term 1 camps. For the year 9 students, the student leaders and other student groups who have been on outdoor educational experiences we know that not only did they enjoy themselves but they will have also developed some new skills which they can build on in the future. It is good to see the students and staff back in class and hopefully focused and enjoying the 'indoor experience'. We are very fortunate to have staff, parents and student leaders willing to put time into outdoor events.

Uniform

Thank you to those parents who have promptly followed up any uniform issues. Your support is appreciated. Should there be any problem with uniform pieces during the year please let the form teacher know as it will save them contacting home.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

The next course is being held in Culverden, on the following 4 evenings:

Tuesday 31st March, Thursday 2nd April,
Tuesday 7th April, and Thursday 9th April

6.30pm – 8.45pm

Cost of course \$185

To be eligible you must have held your restricted license for at least 6 months

For more details or to book please phone
Canterbury Driver Training Ltd.

Diane Johnson 03 315 8983

Mobile: 0275 226 374

Gifted Child? One Day School™,

New Zealand's longest running programme for gifted learners (aged 6-11) has classes in both Christchurch and Rangiora. We have developed the GO (Gifted Online) programme to allow students to work independently on tasks that are specifically created to stimulate a gifted child.

GO is a viable option for students who are unable to attend One Day School due to distance. If travel to Christchurch or Rangiora one day per week is a viable option, consider attending one of our introductory sessions on Monday 23rd March 2009 at Kendal School, Burnside, Christchurch. The cost is \$30 per child. Places are limited and bookings are essential! For more information on any aspect of our services, or to book a place for your child, ring Andrea on 021646963 or email andrea.wong@giftededucation.org.nz

Hurunui Youth Information

Every three years the council makes a plan for the district for the next ten years. It has things in it like upgrades to swimming pools or putting in new walking tracks. We have just finished a draft plan and now we want to know what you think of it. Do you think we should be doing something different? There are summaries of the plan available, so that you don't have to read the whole plan. There will be copies of it available in the libraries or you can go to the Hurunui Youth Voices Blog hurunuiyouth-haveyoursay.blogspot.com to find out more.

LAUGHTON KING EVENING

Monday 23 March in the Amberley School Hall
7.00—10.30pm

Psychologist and author of 'With, Not Against', and
'Reaching the Reluctant Learner'

In his book With, Not Against, Laughton King, psychologist and Counsellor of over 30 years professional experience, presents a compendium of ideas that will allow parents to work in collaboration with their children—the way we all want, and the way it is meant to be.

Gone are the "terrible twos," "the "ferocious fours" and the "fearsome fives" and gone is that fear of the teenage years. Those self-perpetuating myths have no valid place in the rearing of a positive generation of children.

Rather than attempting to control or change your children, take control of yourself, and by making minor changes in your own language and style, you can let your children become what you want them to be.

Take control - of yourself - and let your children cooperate.

Cost \$5.00 per person

Supper provided

Contact the Amberley school office for bookings

Tel. 03 314 8309, or email office@amberley.school.nz

Limited number of seats - so make your booking now!

BLACK FRIDAY JUNIOR DISCO

Friday 13th March 2009

5 - 7pm - Years 0 & 6

7 - 9pm - Years 7 & 8

Community Room at Amuri Area School

Music and Entertainment Provided!

See Zoe for a ticket! \$4 per ticket!