



Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka
Nothing But The Best*



Raising Achievement; Realising Potential; Encouraging Excellence

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NEWLETTER NO. 1

Week 1

Week Ending 1st February 2019

Tena koutou katoa

Welcome back to another year at Amuri. I would like to start by introducing our new staff members.

- Tevita Asi will be teaching Maths and Science. Tevita comes to us from Waitaki Boys High.
- Renet Van Der Merwre comes to us from South Africa to work in our Te Kooti Unit.

A flying start for us this year as we hosted a day of development for over 130 teachers from the Hurunui district with Dr Lucy Hone. This day had a focus on developing long term sustainable Wellbeing programmes and initiatives in the school and community. We look forward to putting this to great use!

Our roll has hit a record 359 to start the year bringing both opportunities and challenges in equal measure. Congratulations to our 2018 cohort on very successful Level 1 and 2 NCEA results in particular our 100% achievement at Level 2 for the second year running and a very pleasing result of 95% achievement at Level 1.



Students Leaving School at Breaktimes

Please note students are NOT permitted to leave school grounds during morning tea or lunch to go to Culverden

EVEN with parental consent. Only Year 13 have this privilege. Thanks for your support on this.

Reports

After a very successful pilot of emailed reports in Years 11-13 the gremlins certainly hit with the end of year reports for Years 4-10. In MOST cases the issue was that receiving email filters marked the reports as trash or junk and depending upon your email settings made them hard to find. There were also many cases where the email addresses we had for you were incorrect meaning the reports bounced back. We did respond to every query, however, if you have yet to receive an end of year report please contact the office and we will get them to you asap. We have been assured by MUSAC Edge (providers of our Student Management System) that the reports are available on their app. After we have made checks to ensure this is correct, details regarding installing the app will be in next weeks' newsletter. We will be sending home a contact check early this term so we can clean up any incorrect email addresses. If you change cell or email please let us know as it is so important for us to communicate with you effectively and remember our school app is a great source of information if you subscribe to alerts for your child's age group.

Our Value this term is Pride.

Teachers are encouraged to seek out and acknowledge students who demonstrate this over the term looking for things such as:-

- Student consistently wears correct and tidy uniform.
- Student is consistently prepared and ready for class.
- Students actions contribute to a tidy and safe school environment.
- Student represents our school with Pride externally.

As ever I encourage you to explore these ideas as dinner time conversation with your child to support them to understand how they can exhibit this value at school and at home.

Uniform Changes

It is great to see such an uptake of our new uniform. As stated there is a delay on the polo shirt /sports top and we are looking to receive these as soon as possible. The reason for the delay is that we found a design we like but it comes as standard in the very fabric our students told us was hot and sweaty. As a result we are having this custom made in a 65 poly 35 cotton mix that is far more comfortable. We anticipate ALL items being ready and on the Mainland website during this term.

We do have stock in school should you wish to come and try something on. Thanks for your support and please remember you have a whole year to make the change with both old and new uniform accepted throughout 2019.

Whilst on the subject of uniform and given the warm weather it is timely to remind you that a bikini is not acceptable swimwear for school and that hoodies are not allowed and we would appreciate your support with this matter.

Sports Turf

After some delays with the initial contractor folding up their business, work begins soon on our multisport turf and we are very excited to see this project getting underway. Thanks to all involved in making this happen.

Bible In Schools

This happens for students in the primary school each Friday morning. If you do not wish for your child to be part of this please call the office or email kylee@amuri.school.nz and an alternative programme will be provided. No explanations are necessary! This is a busy term with swim sports and senior athletics part of the programme alongside Year 9 camp. Use the app and this newsletter to keep up to date.

In my end of year address, I encouraged you as parents and caregivers to be engaged with your school. If you have concerns about your child do not be afraid to pick up the phone or walk in the door. Talk to your teachers and with a team effort there is very little that cannot be resolved.

SAVE THE DATE!

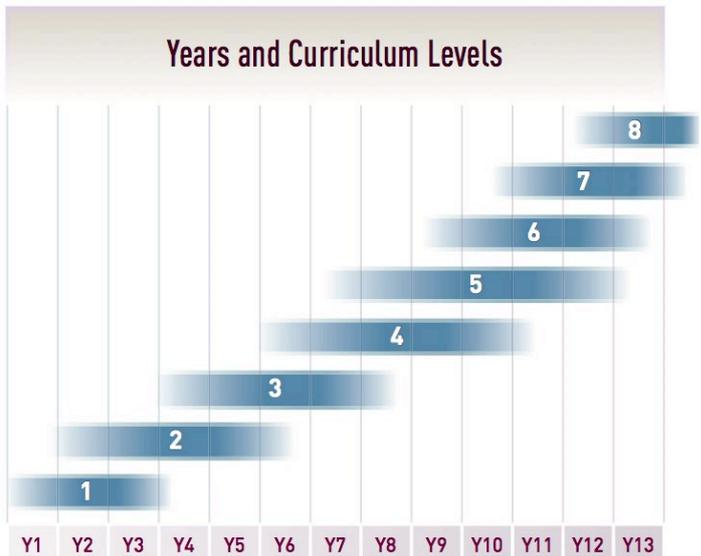
7pm 13th February ATTITUDE will be coming to school to present to parents and caregivers on Cybersafety and cyber awareness. We do, at times, have to manage significant issues that arise from the misuse of digital technology in the home and this spills over into school, therefore this is a great opportunity for you as parents, to arm yourselves with the skills you need to keep your child safe.

Reporting for 2019

Due to the removal of National Standards from January 2019 the following changes will take effect.

- 1) Your child's achievement and progress will be reported against Curriculum Levels in Years 1-10.
- 2) All students will receive a Mid and End of Year Report and students in Years 1-3 will no longer receive reports at 20, 40, 60 weeks etc.

Understanding curriculum levels is important for you to ascertain where your child is at, in comparison to National expectations. The table below is an important part of this understanding.



The curriculum level judgements are somewhat different to National Standards as they recognise that children develop at a different pace and indeed within a cohort of Year 4's, there can be as much as 7 months difference in age and maturity.

Our reports will state your child as being EARLY or AT a certain level which you can use to reference against this chart.

Support for our Swimming Pool

Our Community Pool is a wonderful thing to have on these hot days. You may not be aware that the school receives significant support both in chemicals and technical expertise from Hanmer Springs Hot Pools. We would like to thank Tony Harding and Neil Wilson in particular for their ongoing support in keeping our pool clear and clean!



BYOD In Years 10-13

Please remind your child to bring their device, fully charged, every day to school.

Kia Kitea Toikaka

James Griggs
Principal

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ICAS	International Competitions and Assessments for Schools
HPSSA	Hurunui Primary Schools Sports Association Canterbury Country High Schools
CASA	Canterbury Area Schools Association

FEBRUARY '19

5th	Mitchell Assembly @ 10:00am
6th	Waitangi Day – No School
12th	Swim Champs
13th	Attitude Cyber Years 7/8 Attitude Cyber Parents – 7pm
19th	Science in a Van
21st	Senior Athletics
22nd	Primary Swim Display
26th	CCHS Swimming
27th	Hamilton Assembly @ 10:00am
28th	HPSSA Swimming

MARCH '19

1st	1500m races
4th	3000m races
6th – 8th	Year 7 Camp
7th	CCHS Athletics
11th	Hurunui Zone Duathlon
14th	Science Roadshow
18th – 20th	Year 9 Camp
25th	PTA Meeting @ 3:30pm
25th – 29th	Life Education Visit
25th – 29th	Year 9/10 Football Tour – West Coast
29th	SISS Athletics

Senior School News 1st Feb 2019

It has been a pleasure to welcome back students old and new to the new term and despite temperatures that would wilt even the hardiest of species the first week has gone very smoothly. We are very impressed with the new look uniform which I would describe as crisp and stylish and much simpler to comply with. The only reminder at this stage is that black trousers DOES NOT include jeans or denim so please read the requirements carefully.

The need for good sun protection is a must and students are encouraged to wear hats outside and use sunscreen if in the sun for lengths of time. Of course, work does not grind to a halt because it is hot we just need to remember to prepare ourselves to manage the conditions – in no time at all we could be complaining of the cold!

Once again many of our students achieved some pleasing NCEA results – for another year running we had a 100% pass rate at Year 12 and 95% of the students who stayed at school the year passed Level 1. Within those pass rates were a number of Certificate Endorsements at Excellence and Merit and a good number of specific course endorsements. Congratulations to all the students who achieved their NCEA. Success is the sum of many parts but one that we spend time trying to help get right for students is course selection – this is the bit where reality and dreams can collide. Many tertiary level courses have very clear specific entry level subjects and the last thing we want to do is let students set themselves up for failure so please understand that entry to a course can be denied

if the student does not have the previous level of study required. A majority of students manage this process well over their senior years and listen to and seek advice and we would ask that as parents you take a very active interest in their course selection. We are always here to help and answer any questions and queries you may have.

Tuesday was another very successful whanau fun day and our thanks go to the whanau co-ordinators and student leaders for the organisation of the day. The efforts of the form teachers and form leaders and other staff on the day ultimately determine the success and I would also like to thank those people for all their work in less than ideal conditions! Overall it has been a positive start to the year – for some seniors there will be some course changes and it will be a few days before some of the programmes like Ara and the on line/distance options get underway – so cherish the quieter moments and know that very soon the only constant thing will be work.

Penny Mossman

Studio #19 Art Notice

I hope everyone has had a great break and are refreshed. Congratulations to everyone who passed in Visual Arts! A special mention of the people who obtained Subject Endorsements in Art . The Studio #19 is so proud of you all! Any time you are popping into school, you are most welcome to come and view our artists at work!

Year 11 Art Excellence Endorsement
Jazmine Cuff
Amber Roberts
Merit Endorsement
Josh Privaldos
Isaac Mathisen
Karla De Vera

Year 12 Photography Excellence Endorsement
Caitlin Harding
Merit Endorsement
Angelo Sales
Georgia McCabe

Year 13 Design Excellence Endorsement
Jess Price

Year 13 Photography Merit Endorsement
Ashleigh McKay

Just some housekeeping notices

1. 2015 Rebecca's students Visual Diaries can be picked up.
2. 2016-17 Visual Diaries are available to take home .
3. Missing from photography equipment :
 - **#1 600 battery**
 - **Charger cord for 600-700 D**
 - **#7 lens cap for 800D cannon camera**

These cost money to replace and I would appreciate if you could look at home and return please

Music : Singing Hagley Community Classes Hayley Community Classes via Skype

Our VC Room has been overhauled and updated. The latest microphone is now installed so it is all ready to go! The classes offered will run from Term 1 to Term 4. NCEA credits are available for seniors Year 11 to Year 13 which are assessed end of Term 3 on Music Camp. Junior classes for Year 9 and 10 are also available. Sarah-Jane Rennie is the music teacher. I will be calling for students interested in taking this subject during the first week. Please encourage your child to be involved.

Thank you
denise judson

Bus Safety on the Road



**“20km either way”
when passing a
stationery school bus**

This means you have to reduce your speed to 20km when the school bus is stopped either side of the road.

Senior Sport Years 9 – 13 Wednesdays

Please note this is compulsory for all students. Please ensure your child brings appropriate sports wear.



 **Big Brothers Big Sisters
of New Zealand**

Tuakana Teina

Male and female mentors are needed now in the Hurunui

One hour,

Once a week.

You can change a life.

No experience needed. Training and support provided.

If this sounds like something you could be interested in, check out
www.bigbrothersbigistersnewzealand

or contact Ellie Le Gros on ellie@bbbs.nz or 027 271 3405 for more information.

Start something new, today. Become a mentor.



Ti Kōuka

Adventure camp

ATTITUDE

Parenting Place's Attitude team is excited to bring you Ti Kōuka - the ultimate parent-child adventure camp.

Most of us don't look forward to talking about self-esteem, technology, drugs, alcohol or puberty with our kids. We know it's really important, but it's difficult to find the right moment, or even know where to start.

Ti Kōuka is for intermediate aged children, accompanied by a parent/grandparent/caregiver/special big person in their life.

There will be challenging and fun activities, good food, great chats and the chance for you and your child to strengthen your relationship. Join us at Ti Kōuka.

For dates and locations, check out parentingplace.nz/ti-kouka



Good Luck Miss Helmore.
We hope that you do well in
the 'Coast to Coast' race
next weekend!!