

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

Sharing Caring Learning And Achieving

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“The Opaheke Way”

NEWSLETTER NO 08/10

2 June 2010

Dear Parents,
Greetings to all of you as we begin the winter season. If you fail to receive a hard copy of this news letter they are always placed on the School's website every second Wednesday.

'THE OPAHEKE WAY'

What do we mean by the title of our School newsletter? What does the Opaheke Way mean for our students - your children? 'Sharing Caring Learning and Achieving' has been our School's Mission Statement since the first Board of Trustees spent many hours attempting to state the essence of our School. They wanted our students to share with others,

to care about others, to learn and to achieve during their time at this School. The Mission Statement is still, I believe, at the heart of our School's existence.

High Expectations: at our School there is an expectation that our students will demonstrate high standards of behaviour both at school and when going outside of the school on class visits or outdoor education camps.

Personal Best: Each child is expected to be an achiever. Whether it is in reading, Athletics, sport, music, drama, writing or having good manners, each student can be best at something. Accepting that other children are

different and that's okay. Learning to work alongside children from different backgrounds and different cultures is part of growing up in a community like Opaheke.

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Last week the new Board of Trustees held their first meeting following the April election. Office holders are:
Chairman: Grant McLachlan
Secretary: Michael Gilmore
Treasurer: Mike Capper
Other subcommittees will be set up as the Board become familiar with their responsibilities. The new Board came into School last

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Flu Season*
- *Class/Netball Photos*
- *Lunchroom Helpers*
- *Celia Lashlie CD*

Monday for a familiarisation visit when all of our students and teachers were at work.

Fun Fact

In a pack of cards the king of hearts is the only king without a moustache!



BUILDING UPGRADE

One of the first major tasks for the new Board will be continuing and completing planning for the upgrade of Rooms 1 to 12. Considerable work is needed on this project which will be led by Andrew Wickers. Are there any builders among our parent community who would be interested in tendering for work at the School? With the upgrade of Rooms 1-12 coming up, the Board would like to know of any parents interested in some work. Please contact the School office if interested.

SCHOOL AMENITY

The past Board was greatly encouraged by the effort parents were making to pay the School amenity. Many of our families use internet banking to pay off this amount over the course of the year and this is appreciated. We also

understand that these times are not easy financially for many of our parents.

PTA NEWS

The new PTA met two weeks ago and are already planning some events. The Committee are purchasing some additional Numeracy equipment for the Junior School and are funding with proceeds from the Family Carnival a visiting performer to help launch Bookweek in August. They will also organise a disco evening on Thursday 1st July at School.

NETBALL TEAMS' JACKETS

Thanks to an application made by Wendy Beever to the Lion Foundation, our Saturday morning netball teams will have warm jackets shortly. Well done Wendy.

SMOKEFREE SCHOOL

Opaheke School has been a smokefree school since

2000. We are required to notify all parents that School grounds must be a smokefree area at all times. Parents support for the School's rule would be appreciated.

CLASS/NETBALL PHOTOGRAPHS

Students will have brought home an envelope to pre purchase a class photo. For netballers who wish to purchase a team photo extra envelopes are available from the office. Photos will be taken on Thursday 10 June. Please return envelopes with money before this date if you wish to purchase one. Photolife require a separate envelope for each child who will be purchasing a photo.

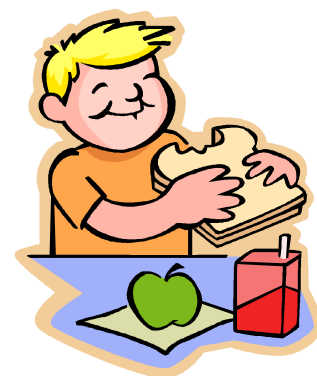


LUNCHROOM HELPERS

We need helpers for our Friday lunch day. Lunches are delivered from the bakery and volunteers are needed to help bag lunches up for 1 hour from 11 - 11.50am. You would be rostered on approximately once per month. Pre schoolers are welcome.

Mums, dads, nanas, granddads we need you! The lunch room is run as a fundraising venture for the PTA and contributes to resources and equipment that the PTA fund. We do appreciate the generous help of those parents already on the roster. If you can spare 1 hour every few

weeks please phone Zena on 299 9543 or the school office, thank you.



FLU SEASON: Now that winter has arrived we would like to remind parents of some precautions to prevent the spread of viruses. This time last year we were in the midst of 'Swine Flu' and we do urge parents to keep sick children at home and away from other children. Sensible precautions are:

- ⇒ Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue
 - ⇒ Put used tissues into a rubbish bin
 - ⇒ Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth –germs spread that way
 - ⇒ Be careful to wash hands often with soap and dry them thoroughly
- hand hygiene is critical:** even when you start to feel better there is still a risk of infecting others, so keep to the 20/20 rule – 20 seconds washing and 20 seconds drying
- ⇒ Keep surfaces clean at home, school and work
 - ⇒ All classes have been issued with a container of hand gel for children & teachers to use in order to do our best to prevent the spread of germs.



VISITS TO COUNTIES GYM SPORT STADIUM

Thanks to Mrs Owen who successfully applied to a local trust for funding to enable our students to be bused to and from Counties Gym Sport Stadium at Bruce Pulman Park. Entry charges will also be paid for by the trust.

THANKYOU TOO!

To those wonderful parents who are promoting Park And Walk each Tuesday morning and who are also leading the Walking School Buses.

DENTAL CLINIC

Our School's dental clinic will be fully staffed during the coming July holidays to enable children's dental health needs to be attended to.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING

Selected to represent **Counties North Rugby** at the forthcoming Yr7/8 Counties Rugby Field Day.– Nirai Taylor, Kieran Williams, Sio Leuo, Angus Sweney, Mitchell Holmes, Sitivi Leuo, Noble Te Kawa, Dylan Richardson, Angus Angell, James Robinson, Daniel Glamuzina, Mana Kareroa.

CocaCola Netball

Tournament held two weeks ago Year 7/8 girls team Blaze was runner up on the day and Year 5/6 girls team Lightning was also runner up in their grade.

Ms Tilly Jolly, who was teaching at Opaheke school in Term 1 and in Room 17 last year, has just given birth to a baby girl named Madison.

CELIA LASHLIE CD

We have two CD copies of Celia's talk on 'growing gorgeous boys into good men' recorded at one of her seminars. Parents may borrow a copy from the School office. Call into the office or send a request with your child (name/ phone number supplied please) if you would like a copy sent home.

QUOTE

*Honesty pays
but it doesn't
seem to pay
enough to suit
some people*

Kin Hubbard (1868-1930)

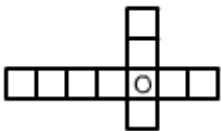
PAI WHAT IS IT? Parents may have heard from teachers or children about the PAI. The Papakura Achievement Initiative or PAI for short is a schooling improvement project for all Papakura schools aimed at raising student achievement in reading and writing. The funding is provided by the Ministry of Education and Opaheke School is the fund holder of this money on behalf of all of the 18 schools. The three building blocks are Building Expertise—enhancing teachers’ abilities in the teaching of reading; Building Partnerships—strengthening each schools partnership with its parent community eg Celia Lashlie’s visit; Building A Learning Community—strengthening links among schools and enhancing teacher professional practice.

COMING EVENTS

Mon 7 June	Queens Birthday holiday
Wed 9 June	University New South Wales Science test ASB Financial literacy workshop part 2
Thurs 10 June	Class/Netball Photos Yr7/8 Counties Rugby Field Day
Tues 15 June	Big Foot Bike Day For Yr5/6 classes evening: Kids For Kids musical concert at Telstra Centre
Wed 16 June	ASB Financial Literacy workshop part 3
Mon 21 June	7.30pm PTA meeting in staffroom—all parents welcome

Quiz: Cross Animals: Here are the jumbled up letters of an animal and its young. One of the letters is common and connects the two. Can you name the creatures?

P L E G D R A F T



Best wishes

Murray Wratt
Principal

Answer to Quiz: Tadpole (across) and Frog (down)