

## Coming Events

Thur 4 June	Counties Zone rugby field day at Ardmore Marist grounds 7.30pm Gala Planning Committee meet.
Mon 8 June	Year 7 students immunisation talks by Public Health nurses. 1.30pm Walking school bus meeting for interested parents in the staffroom – all parents, grandparents, caregivers welcome
Tues 9 June	Board of Trustees meeting 7.30pm
Wed 10/Thu 11 June	Parents invited to inspect the new classroom block p.m.
Thur 11 June	Y7/8 winter sports field day
Fri 12 June	Class and team photographs taken
Mon 15 June	School choir rehearsal for APPA festival at Normal School.
Wed 17 June	Y5/6 winter sports field day

**Quiz:** What colour am I? Choose the correct letter for each clue in the following rhyme .

- My first is in grass but not in space.
- My second in race but not in place.
- My third in ever and also in here.
- My fourth in see and also in hear.
- My last in no is always found.
- My whole a color all around.

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**Quote:** Inside every older person there is a younger person wondering what happened.

Best Wishes

Murray Wratt  
Principal

I would be interested in receiving an email copy of this newsletter **Yes/No**  
I know the newsletter is available online on the School website **Yes/No**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Answer to Quiz: green

# OPAHEKE SCHOOL

## *Sharing Caring Learning And Achieving*

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3 June 2009  
Newsletter No 08/09

## “The Opaheke Way”

Dear Parents,  
Welcome to winter! Now is a time of the year for hot soup, winter sports and good books for all to read.

**Draft National Standards:** Late last week our School received a discussion pack about the proposed national standards for reading, writing and mathematics. These draft standards describe the level of difficulty in texts and tasks that students will have to work with to meet the requirements of the New Zealand Curriculum at a certain time of the year from Year One up to Year Eight. These standards are aimed at giving class teachers throughout the country common points of reference for their students in reading, writing and mathematics. It is intended that these national standards will be in place from 2010 and will aim to identify under achievement – and hopefully – acknowledge excellence.

There is a period of consultation from the end of May up to 3<sup>rd</sup> July and meetings with interested parents are occurring at selected schools. A feedback booklet is available and can be completed online at [www.minedu.govt.nz/national](http://www.minedu.govt.nz/national) standards or we will have some copies available at the School office for interested parents.

**New Classroom Block:** Work is now finished on our new classroom block and final cleaning up is taking place. The project will be passed over to the Board of Trustees at the end of this week pending final inspections. Parents are invited to come and look through this wonderful new facility next Wednesday afternoon and Thursday 10/11 June. Mrs Fairweather, Mrs Greenman and Mrs Read will be moving their classes in soon after. Other programmes such as Rainbow Reading will also be located in the new building.



**School Vision Statements:** Last week, a sub committee of teachers met to bring the strands together from parent responses, Board's workshop and teacher only day. The results of the workshop is enclosed with this newsletter and we would seek any final feedback from parents before it is presented to the Board of Trustees for confirmation. A school's vision statement should encapsulate the essence of what that school stands for – what it represents and all school curriculum should follow on from that vision.

**Parent Email Addresses:** We are investigating the possibility of setting up a group email address for parents who would prefer to receive their newsletters on email format. Please detach and return the slip at the end of the newsletter if interested.

**Celebrating Successes:** Congratulations to the following students:



- ☺ Yr7/8 boys selected for Counties North rugby teams for their tournament tomorrow – Neil Smithson, Rory Barton, Dylan Richardson, Clayton Rubin, Jared Witcher, Angus Sweeney, Nirai Taylor and Arron Crossan.
- ☺ Our teams competing in the Youth Expo Activ8 Day at Massey Park.  
Year 5/6 team - Caitiln Pritchard, Emma Morris, Jade Tulp, Harry Lunny, Anthony Smith, Erica Fullerton, Ellie Raynes, Manaia Taylor, Nathan Rubin, Thomas Edwards, Daniel McIntosh, Alex Grieve.  
Year 7/8 team - Johna Rawiri, Danii Rawiri, Jenna Homewood, Jasmine Desai, Clayton Rubin, Angus Sweeny, Thor Eastwood, Liam Costello, Jared Witcher, Troy Martin, Samantha Butler, Rebekah Mauger. The Yr7/8 team was first overall.

**Walking School Bus:** We need you! Volunteer for the Opaheke School Walking School Bus. We would like to welcome parents, grandparents and caregivers to learn more about the Opaheke School, Walking School bus. A walking school bus is a group of children walking to/from school with one or more adults. If that sounds simple it is and that's part of the beauty of a walking school bus. If you would like to find out more, please join us on Monday 8 June in the staffroom at 1.30pm. 'There's no parking fuss on a walking school bus'

**Saturday Morning Netball:** Thank you to all of the parents who gave up their time to help out during club duty day. It is really appreciated and we wouldn't have been able to run a club without those wonderful helpers. An extra big thanks to those who stayed onto do an additional shift to cover gaps.

Opaheke Blaze have entered in a competition that could help them win sports gear, training sessions and a first aid kit. All they need to do is to collect as many New World shopping docket receipts as possible and send them away. The team with the longest docket wins. Please help out the Opaheke Blaze team and send in any New World receipt dockets to Room three. This competition runs until the 14<sup>th</sup> June.

**School Gala Returns:** Thankyou to those parents who returned the slip about the possible School Gala on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November. There is still time for others to respond. Tomorrow evening the Committee will meet to plan the next move. All parents welcome to attend, 7.30pm Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June in the staffroom.

**School Banking:** The National Bank want to help... If your child's saving is important to you, it's important to us! School Banking with the National Bank operates from the library every Thursday morning. Applications are available at the Bank or from the School office.

**Class, Netball Team, and Councillor photographs:**

These will be taken on Friday 12 June. All photos must be pre paid. Your child has been given an envelope with his/her name on it to bring home and if you wish to order a photo of your child please return the envelope with payment before Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June (this will be the final day for payment). Girls can collect envelopes from the office to order a Netball Photo - please remember to put your child's Team Name on the front. All children will be included in the photos whether they order or not.



**PTA Family Photos:** Our PTA have booked a 'Family Photo' weekend for Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> of August. Further details will follow closer to the date. This is a great opportunity to get everyone in the family together for a group photo, so mark it on your calendar.

**Community Notices:**

- In Goodtime HorsePark. Riding lessons on miniature & small ponies in Karaka ph 092919153 or [ingoodtimehorsepark@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ingoodtimehorsepark@xtra.co.nz)
- SuperKids Papakura After School OSCAR Programme currently has vacancies for 5-13 year olds and picks up from Opaheke School. Daily activities include homework supervision, games, afternoon tea and fun filled activities. OSCAR subsidies available Ph 299 9394.
- Marching girls needed, Year 3 – Year 8. If interested please call Leah 2984990 or 0274384882.