

Coming Events

Thur 6 Nov	Vegetable orders to be collected from hall 2-3pm
Sat 8 Nov	General election, there will be polling booths in the School Hall
Tues 11 Nov	Board of Trustees meeting
Thurs 13 Nov	Counties Zone touch tournament for Year 7/8
Tues 18 Nov	Counties Zone athletics tournament for Year 7/8
Wed 19 Nov	Year 3 classes to Howick Historical Village
Fri 21 Nov	PTA Auction
Tues 25 Nov	7.30pm PTA meeting please note change of day
Wed 26 Nov	Year 5/6 Counties North athletics field day

Travel Wise:

Children cannot accurately judge traffic speed. Never call to your child from across the road.

Quote: ‘Success makes life easier. It doesn’t make living easier!’ Bruce Springsteen.

Quiz: Can you figure out why the English language is hard to learn?

The wind was too strong to wind up the sail.

The bandage was wound around the wound.

The farm was used to produce produce.

There was a row among the rowers as to what speed they should row.

There is no time like the present to present the present.

Best Wishes

Murray Wratt
Principal

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

office@opaheke.school.nz
Web Site: www.opaheke.school.nz

Tasman Drive
PAPAKURA
298 5410 Ph
298 0739 Fax

5 November 2008
Newsletter No 17/08

“The Opaheke Way”

Dear Parents,
Greetings to all of you as the general election looms this coming weekend.

Auction Evening: The PTA are working very hard, preparing for the annual auction evening on Friday 21 November. Some great items will be up for bidding and the whole evening will be a time of fun *plus* you get the chance to take home something that you really want. Might it be piloting a jet aircraft simulator, or a meal at a favourite restaurant or a kit set of tools? Tickets are available from the office - \$10 includes entrance and a glass of wine or juice. There will be drinks and pizza available for purchase throughout the evening.

Curriculum Study Day: Last Tuesday staff were fully involved in a major study and analysis of the new curriculum which will become compulsory by 2010. This workshop provided an opportunity for teachers, office staff and support staff to map out future directions for the School. However, this task is going to require input from the School’s parent community and we will be aiming to hold an evening meeting for all interested parents to outline the future curriculum for Opaheke School. What is our preferred future for our students? It is important that parents have a say in this significant development. Watch this space.

School’s 40th Anniversary: Regrettably, this occasion for the 22nd November has been cancelled due to insufficient registrations. Apparently nowadays, young people stay in touch via ‘Bebo’, ‘Facebook’ and ‘Old Friends’, more than face to face contact. Perhaps in 10 years time, there will sufficient interest in a School reunion to celebrate our 50th!



School Shrubbery: We are very pleased to inform parents that the children's garden established next to the dental clinic is in good health and all pupils are respecting the garden area as the plants establish themselves. We are hoping to replant and 'revitalise' the front entrance of the school next year and are having plans drawn for this now.

Veggie Boxes: Tomorrow, the PTA will be boxing up the orders for parents to collect from the hall. This is a great opportunity to purchase the family's vegetable requirement as well as helping the PTA. Orders can be picked up between 2-3pm. A huge thankyou to Bernard Boyce and Marilyn O'Hara who have set up the project. Thankyou also to the PTA who will be preparing the orders.

All Black News: Two weekends ago a new All Black was named and selected to tour to Hong Kong and the four home unions of Scotland, Ireland, England. Our warmest congratulations to Kieran Read who is the first ex pupil from Opaheke School and the current captain of Canterbury who is travelling as a new All Black. Mrs Read, one of our teachers, is Kieran's mother and she will be on leave for some of the time to follow Kieran's games.

Celebrating Other Successes: Congratulations to the following students:

- Mandy Pope Rm 9 passed pre grade ballet exam with High Honours 90-94%.

Yummy Stickers: Mrs Owen has reported that \$750 worth of sports gear will be purchased from collecting the Yummy Stickers from fruit through the winter. Thankyou to all of the families who supported the School by sending along the stickers.



Papakura Music School: This very worthwhile, locally based Music School is taking enrolments for 2009 after a demonstration concert at 10.00am on 29 November. The Papakura Music School provides low cost music, tuition and instrument hire for students in Year 1 to 8. Classes are held at Mansell Senior School on Saturday mornings. If your child appears to have an interest in music, this is a great opportunity to develop that interest and talent.

Sausage Sizzle: The School Councillors are holding a sausage sizzle tomorrow morning. Money raised will go towards a variety of projects including the Year 4 outdoor education day to Ardmore.

Grandparents Day: Please pass on the Grandparents day invitations that will be sent home. A reminder that this is not a day for parents as parents concerts will be held on Thursday the 11th of December. We request one plate of food to be sent along on the day to provide morning tea for all of our grandparents.

Future Planning: To help parents with planning for a very busy December listed below are some dates of significant school events.

Thursday 4 Dec – School Disco 5.30 – 8.00 approx

Friday 5 Dec – Year 8 students attending Rosehill College orientation day

Thursday 11 Dec – End of Year concerts, NE -Yr 4 10.30am and Year 5 – 8, 7.00pm.

Friday 12 Dec – Grandparents Day

Monday 15 Dec – Year 8 graduation starting at 6.30pm.

Tuesday 16 Dec – End of Year reports come home

Thursday 18 Dec – Last school day for 2008, school finishes 12.30pm.

School Amenity Notices: The final notices for these have been sent out with this newsletter. Thank you to those families who have made an attempt to clear this account it is very much appreciated.

I'm sure you will realise that your children benefit greatly at this School because this extra money donated by families helps fund extra programmes such as the Overseas Language Programmes and the Enrichment Programme with the necessary staffing It also helps us provide extra Teacher Aide time to those children needing help. The Amenity also supplements our library book buying, sports equipment and IT software budgets.

Lost Property: If your child has lost clothing items please remember to check the 'mountain' of clothing outside Room 10. Unfortunately very little of the clothing children bring to school has a name on it so returning it to owners is impossible.

