

Coming Events

Today	Inzone applications for Rosehill College 2008 close
Thur 9 Aug	Yr 3/4 classes to Auckland War Memorial Museum 7.00pm Travel Wise group meet at school
Tues 14 Aug	Board of Trustees meeting
Wed 15 Aug	Wacky Wednesday!
Thurs 16 Aug	10.30am Counties North cross country at Strathallan College
Mon 20 Aug	APPA choir festival rehearsal at Papakura Normal School a.m. 7.30pm PTA meeting all parents welcome Out of Zone applications open
Thur 23 Aug	p.m. School Fun Run all parents welcome
Fri 24 Aug	Counties North gymnastics field day for Yr 5 – 8 at Counties Gym Sport Stadium
Tue 28 Aug	Counties Zone crosscountry venue to be notified
Fri 31 Aug	Counties Zone gymnastics at Pukekohe

Travel Wise Tip: Always use the pedestrian crossing on Tasman Drive. How we act speaks louder than what we say.

Quiz: Can you work this one out? I was born in 1960 yet I am only eleven years old. How can this be? When is my birthday?

Quote: 'If you promise not to believe everything your child says happens at school, I'll promise not to believe everything he says happens at home'.

Best wishes

Murray Wratt
Principal

Answer to Quiz: I have a birthday on leap day every 4 years – 29 February.

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

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Newsletter No 11/07

“The Opaheke Way”

Dear Parents,
Greetings to all of you, as we cope with rain, more rain and muddy fields.

Numeracy Workshop For Parents: In the recent parent questionnaire, a significant number of parents said they would like to know more about how the Numeracy programme has changed mathematics teaching at school. Here is your opportunity. Tuesday 4 September in the School hall starting at 8.00a.m. and finishing by 8.45a.m. The speaker will be Anne-Marie Simpson, Numeracy contract facilitator who is leading the teacher development programme for our staff. We have chosen a morning time because:

- Most people can get to work by 9.00am, a definite cut off time of 8.45am.
- Nobody will miss their favourite television programmes such as ‘Coronation Street’.
- Childcare will be easier – your children can simply come to School with you.
- We will endeavour to arrange for pre school child care for the 45 minutes for parents needing assistance.

We hope lots of parents will take up this opportunity to attend and find out how mathematical ideas and processes have changed. Admission is free!

Recycling At School: Do we do it? Yes we do. Our School does aim to recycle what can be sensibly recycled.

- ✓ Food scraps go into separate bins – the contents from these bins are fed to our ‘worm farm’ to later become nutrient rich compost. Paper and cardboard are also recycled in the normal way.
- ✓ Plastic milk bottles are bagged for use by a local Motox club as crash barriers.
- ✓ Other glass containers, cans and certain plastic bottle are recycled in the same way as households can now do.

The net result is that our rubbish has been reduced by nearly two thirds. Our large bin is now emptied once a fortnight rather than as it used to be, each week.

Speech Competitions: Yes parents it’s round to that time of the year again.. Throughout August all students in Yrs 5 to 8 prepare and present a 3 minute speech



on a topic of interest to them. Our School Speech final will be held in the hall starting at 7pm Tuesday 4th Sep. Winners go on to a district 'Champion of Champions'.

Science Fair: this term all of the Year 7/8's are busy preparing for our School Science Fair. Throughout this term senior students are asking scientific questions, forming hypotheses, gathering data, carrying out further research and reaching conclusions. Judging of these will be completed by scientific experts outside of the school. The research projects will be on display for Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th September with parents being encouraged to view the Fair during the afternoons and evenings.



Talent Quest: At the end of this term our School Councillors will be organising their annual Talent Quest. This is an opportunity for our talented young people to show others in the School what they can do. Staff never cease to be amazed at the gifts, skills and creativity of our students. It is an occasion for all to enjoy.

Celebrating Successes: Congratulations to the following students.

University of New South Wales Mathematics tests: *Distinction Awards 90 – 99%:* Yr4; Navrajdeep Sandhu, Yr5; Sophia Tadi, Yr8; Connal Boyce, Rajat Malhotra. *Credit Awards 70 – 89%:* Yr 4; Chhavi Breja, Vincent Diep, Samuel Earl, Kieron Williams, Yr 5; Ben Greive, Ronnie Shaddick, Yr6; Alex Brak, Samantha Butler, Hritika Ghaiee, Perrin Hastings, Troy Martin, Rebecca Young, Yr 7; Aseem Anand, Alexandra Smith, Finn Taylor, Kyla Trudgeon, Anni Yang, Yr8; Sonia Everitt, Alister Holmes, Dylan Ngatai, Jamie Peters, Kayla Rubin, Curtis Taylor-Swan.

Brass Instrumentalists; Alex Brak, Christian Chappell and Micah Visser have just been promoted from school tuition into the Papakura Junior Brass Band.

Netball – Leah Strongman-Horn in Yr8 Counties North A Team, 1st in Counties Zone, Annaliese Raynes and Annaliese Wainwright in Yr8 Counties North B Team 3rd overall in Counties Zone. Destiny Grace, Katie Maihi and Adeline Shaddick in Counties North Yr7 team, 2nd overall in Counties Zone.

Hockey – Liam Neems Yr8 selected for Counties Boys hockey development squad contesting the Hatch Cup in Tauranga.

Chirag Bhakoo selected as a Book Reviewer by Upstart Magazine, a magazine written by New Zealand children.

Parent Interviews: Almost all parents have now attended mid year interviews/conferences about their child's progress. We are still hopeful of hearing from a handful of parents regarding setting a suitable time. Parents of children in Room 20 will be contacted this term about setting up interview times.

Visiting Classrooms: If you are visiting your child's classroom to view your child's work/books etcetera, it is courteous to ask the class teacher beforehand. Also with respect to the issue of privacy, it is advised that you do not do so without the classroom teacher being present in the room. Thankyou for your cooperation in this matter. The school continues to welcome your interest in your child's school work.

Telecom's School Connection: Parents will possibly be aware that Telecom intends to stop its School Connection programme in July 2008. For years, this programme allowed Telecom residential customers to nominate a School to receive points based on their Telecom account spending. Schools around New Zealand could spend points accrued on computers, printers, digital cameras, broadband services or phone line charges. It is regrettable that this valuable supplement to school funds will disappear because it has enabled our School to purchase an automated bell system and printers over the years. It is to be hoped that Telecom will reconsider its decision especially as schools are charged at business rates for phone line use.

Kapa Haka: We are interested in starting a School Kapa Haka group as a way of encouraging pride and personal wellbeing for some of our students. If any parent is involved in Kapa Haka or knows of suitable leaders could they please make contact with the Principal to discuss this further.

MotosXtreme: We would like to thank Preston Roberts from MotosXtreme for the supply of a motocross bike for display in our school library. The Yamaha motocross bike, pictures, some large poster and DVD's that were supplied, free of charge, helped to create a vibrant and exciting display for the first two weeks of Term Three. Great community spirit thank you MotosXtreme.



Out of Zone Enrolments 2008: Application forms will be available on our website or from the school office from August 20th and closing on September 7th for any families who wish their children to start at Opaheke School in 2008 but live outside our School Enrolment Zone.

Community Notices:

1. Papakura Playcentre Live Auction Elizabeth Campbell Hall 11 Aug 1pm.
2. Papakura Swim Club sessions for beginners to competitive lessons ph 2927446
3. Free workshop for 'Coaches for Kids' Wed 15 Aug 4.30 – 6.30pm Alfriston School ph266 2309 Counties Sport