

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

Sharing Caring Learning And Achieving

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Newsletter No 14/09

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"The Opaheke Way" 9 September 2009

Dear Parents, greetings to all of you as we move into spring time. There is only 2 ½ weeks until the start of daylight saving.

Being A Dad: A 6 year old child once said, 'being a father is someone who will play with you even though he has friends of his own age to play with'. With Father's Day having just passed, we wish to offer encouragement to all of our hard working Dads who make time for their children. No matter what the age of our children, we never stop being a parent. Whether 'it's taking a child to Saturday morning sports, to music classes, to Sunday school, helping to fix a bike or sharing a favourite book during the evening, there is a vital place for fathers in

the family home. Sadly too many fathers live away from their children and have little if any influence in their children's lives. My message to all good fathers is hang in there even when the going gets tough. It will become easier and each father has a big part to play in their children's lives.

Here's an acrostic for fathers.

F *faithful*

A *awesome*

T *tough, tender, trusting*

H *helpful*

E *eccentric*

R *respectful*

S *strong*

See the back page for some

Points of Interest:

- ☺ **Out of Zone Enrolments**
- ☺ **Teacher Appreciation Day**
- ☺ **Science Fair**
- ☺ **Talent Quest**

interesting facts.

Teacher Only Day:

On this day, all teachers at the School worked to prepare for implementing the new New Zealand Curriculum which becomes a compulsory document next year. This was a valuable opportunity for teachers to apply their thinking without the usual classroom factors.

Out of Zone Enrolments:

Out of Zone applications for enrolments in 2010 will be accepted from 14 September until 16 October and the ballot will be held on 23 October 2009. If you live out of our School Zone and have a child starting at Opaheke School in 2010 you will need to make an application. Forms can be downloaded from the schools web-

site or are available from the school office. Applicants will be informed of the decision within five days of the ballot. If the application is successful there will be further procedures to complete.

Speech Competitions

Last week Charlotte Pritchard Yr8 and Caitlin Pritchard Yr6

competed in the Papakura Principals' Association inter school speeches held at Normal School and Redhill School.

Congratulations to both these girls for their excellent effort.



Bring It On Opaheke

This year our School Councillors are organising a talent quest for later in September.

Pupils will have an opportunity to show their capabilities in the performing arts for all of our School to enjoy.



Measles Outbreak: There is currently a major increase in the number of children with measles, a serious and highly infectious viral disease. Measles causes fever, cough, sore red eyes and a rash, making children and adults very sick. The only protection from measles is immunisation and the Ministry of Health recommends all children from the age of 12 months to 12 years who have not had their first

dose of MMR vaccine should be given this as soon as possible. If every parent follows through on this all of our children will be less at risk of this serious illness.



Celebrating Successes:

Congratulations to the following students:

- ◆ Counties North Crosscountry—Jade Tulp 2nd Yr6 girls, Sean Henson 3rd Yr6 boys. Yr6 girls team 1st overall, Yr6 boys 2nd overall. Darby Fullerton, Natasha Tulp, Jenna Homewood and Ronnie Shaddick all competed in the Yr7/8 Counties Zone cross-country at Paparimu. Natasha 6th and Darby 17th will compete in the Auckland Interzone championship at Pukekohe.
- ◆ Girls Counties Zone Basketball Rebekah Mager, Jasmine Desai, Jeannie Rikona, Johna Rawiri, Moemoe Luapene, Madions Lunny, Maia-Jean Watene, Ariana Tupoutoa, Charlotte Pritchard. Excellent results 1st in pool games and won their semi final and final. Special thanks to John Mager and Jo Pritchard for their help on the day.
- ◆ Rugby League—Nirai Taylor and Mana Kareroa were in the Counties North team that competed in the Counties Zone competition.
- ◆ Gymnastics Counties North—Luke Everett 3rd Yr5 boys, Indiana Ortiz 1st Yr5 girls, Jade Tulp 2nd Yr6 girls, Chester Davies 3rd Yr8 boys, Dahnia Smiley 1st Yr8 girls, Hritika Ghaiee 3rd Yr8 girls. Teams Events—Yr5 boys 2nd, Yr5 girls 2nd, Yr6 girls 2nd, Yr7 girls 3rd, Yr8 boys 2nd, Yr8 girls 1st and 3rd.
- ◆ Interschool Gymnastics—Dahnia Smiley, Hritika Ghaiee, Chester Davies and

James Nattrass have been selected to present Counties at the Auckland Interzone day.

'Chocolate is cheaper than therapy and you don't need an appointment'
Unknown

School Sunhats: These will again be compulsory from the beginning of Term Four.
Plain Hats—\$12.00
Embroidered Logo Hats—\$18.00



Daffodil Day: A total of \$251 was raised by students and staff towards cancer research and support. Thankyou to all who provided a donation.

Living Museum:

Congratulations to all of the Yr3/4 classes who organised an outstanding 'living museum' two weeks ago. It was pleasing to see the numbers of parents who also came along to have a look.

Science Fair: This term our Yr 7/8 students are busy preparing for their biennial science fair which will be held in Week Nine. The projects will be on display for parents to view at some time during that week. The hall will also be open on Thursday 24 September from 6-8pm for those unable to view the projects during the daytime.

Teacher Appreciation Day:

This Opaheke School tradition was enjoyed by staff last Friday and is a small way by which our community can say a special thankyou to our quality teachers who work hard to educate our children.



PTA Events:

- **Vegetable Boxes** – there was a pleasing response to these. A huge thankyou to Bernard Boyce who once again organised this project at no charge to our School, and to Marilyn O'Hara who managed the fundraiser.
- **Movie Night** – Friday evening 18 September – two sittings, juniors at 6.00pm and adults/seniors at 8pm, in the School hall.
- **School Gala** – many books, videos and DVD's have come to school. Bottles and preserves are the other main collectables this term. Remember to keep Sunday 1 November free for the Gala.
- **Hypnotist Show**—unfortunately this has been cancelled due to poor ticket sales. The PTA would like to thank those parents who supported this event, ticket refunds are being arranged.



Quiz We were wrong! Last newsletter's quiz answer should have been, false! (answer back page)

Community Notices:

1. In Goodtime HorsePark. Riding lessons on miniature & small ponies in Karaka ph 092919153 or

ingoodtimehorsepark@xtra.co.nz

1. 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.

2. Drury Junior Cricket Club registrations for the 2009/10 season is now underway 5-15

years, boys and girls welcome phone Kim 09 2388998 or 027 2849298.

3. Karaka Cricket Club registrations 3 Sept 1-7pm, 12 Sept a.m., 18 Sept 5-7pm or phone Wendy 29 7131 website - admin@karakacricket.co.nz.

Coming Events

Sat 12 Sept	Hypnotist show cancelled due to insufficient ticket sales.
Tues 15 Sept	Board of Trustees Meeting.
Wed 16 Sept	Choir Festival rehearsal at One Tree Hill College. Auckland Interzone Gymnastics Championship. Auckland Interzone Basketball Championship
Fri 18 Sept	Movie Night in School Hall.
Wed 23 Sept	4.30pm Papakura High School enrolments for 2010 Year Nines.
Thur 24 Sept	Yr7/8 Science Fair in school hall 6-8pm
Fri 25 Sept	Last day of Term Three. School finishes at 1.30pm.

This gem is among a raft of facts released today by Statistics New Zealand to mark Father's Day on Sunday. Other "father figures" include:

** In 2008, a new baby was a Father Day's present for 143 men.*

** The average age of fathers of new babies is 33 years, but one in 100 babies has a father aged 50 years or over.*

** Today's newborn babies have fathers who are, on average, four years older than their own fathers were when they were born.*

** Over a lifetime, fathers have on average seven fewer Father's Days, than mothers have Mother's Days. This is because men generally start parenting later in life and women have a longer life span.*

**The first Father's Day is thought to have originated in Babylon over 4000 years ago.*

**The modern Father's Day celebration had its origins in the US at the turn of the 20th century.*

Kind Regards

Murray Wratt
Principal