

Community Notices

- 1 Blue Light Wave Rave Yr 7/8 students Friday 12th Sept. Massey Park Aquatic Centre 7-9 pm Cost \$5 Permission slips at the door on the night Ph Willy 2961602 if you need further details.
- 2 Sept/ Oct Holiday programme Auckland College of Education Epsom Art Workshops Ph 6238858 for details
- 3 Childcare Available After school Care and holidays if needed. Ph Teresa 2982529

Coming Events:

Thur 11 Sept	Starlab at School- senior classes 10.30 am Junior Olympics
Mon 15 Sept	7.30 pm P.T.A meeting
Tues 16 Sept	Board of Trustees meeting
Wed 17 Sept	Yr 7 classes to Thames for goldmining visit. Auckland Interzone gymnastics championships at New Lynn
Thurs 18 Sept	Yr 8 classes to Thames for gold mining visit.
Fri 19 Sept	p.m 'Opahekes Got Talent'
Mon 22 Sept	7 pm School 40 th anniversary reunion committee meeting
Fri 26 Sept	Last day of Term Three School for Students finishes at 1.30 pm.
Mon 13 Oct	School starts for Term Four

Travel Wise: Children will do as you do, not as you say. Set a good example by always using safe crossing areas. Choose safety before convenience.

Quiz: A hectare is about how many acres?
1 acre, 2.5acres, 2 acres, 1.5 acres

Quote: The way to predict the future is to invent it. *Alan Kay*

Best Wishes

Murray Wratt
Principal

Answer to Quiz: 2.5 acres

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

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10 September 2008
Newsletter No 14/08

“The Opaheke Way”

Dear Parents,
Greetings to all of you. Officially, we are now into the spring season, a time when blossoms appear, young animals are born and best of all the weather becomes warmer.

Having Dads: With Fathers Day having just passed it is timely to reflect on the value and worth of good fathers. Our children today desperately need good fathers and telling dad how important he is in the children's life is critical. Putting aside all the commercial hype about spending money for Fathers Day, acknowledging and valuing fathers is hugely important for Dad's self esteem. Mothers, if your children have good fathers, tell them so. Too many of our young males today belong to a group that I call the 'fatherless males'. These are young males growing up without that positive male guidance and it then becomes the wider society's problem. As we South Aucklanders know to our cost, these youths commit significant numbers of serious crimes and the gang influence becomes the dominant influence in their lives. The message is respect and love good fathers.

Starlab: For 4 days of the week, Starlab is set up in the School Library. This interactive instructional programme aims to teach students about our planets, our earth and our place in the solar system. This programme is at no charge to our students. It is being funded by the P.T.A from the proceeds of the School carnival back in April. Thank you to the P.T.A for the presentation that will benefit every child in the school.

Tired Children: At present, a significant number of tired children are coming to School frequently late. We would urge parents to maintain regular bedtime hours and normal punctuality. Where possible, children should be at school in time to get ready for the start of the School day at 8.25 am.



Daffodil Day: A total of \$640 was raised by both pupils and staff for the Cancer Society's annual appeal. This was an outstanding result. Thankyou parents for your support for this worthy cause.

Speech Competitions: These are now over and parents may be able to breathe a sigh of relief that they no longer have to listen to any more practice speeches. However, the ability to speak confidently and competently in a clear manner is a vital part of oral presentation and it provides an opportunity for all senior and middle school students to speak in front of their peers.

School Speech Competition Winners for 2008

Yr 5/6 1st Caitlin Pritchard; 2nd Ronnie Shaddick; 3rd Ryah Brajkovich

Yr 7/8 1st Darby Fullerton; 2nd Finn Taylor; 3rd Destiny Grace

Both Caitlin and Darby presented their speeches at the Papakura Principals' Association interschool speech competition. Caitlin was 1st in the Yr 5/6 interschool competition, Darby was 3rd in the Yr 7/8 interschool competition. Congratulations to the above students and a special thank you to Mrs Clement, the teacher responsible for organising the programme.



Cake Stall The Year 7 students recently held a cake stall to help fund their visit to the Thames goldmining area. A total of \$260 was raised. Thank you to the parents who supported this project.

Netball Club Prizegiving: The Opaheke Netball Club Prizegiving was held on Saturday 16th August. The following girls were acknowledged by their coaches and awarded the Player of the Season trophy:

Dodgers: Maia Jean Watene, *Diamonds:* Kyla Trudgeon, *Lightning:*

Rebekah Mager, *Magic:* Jayline Jacobs, *Bullets:* Ashleigh-Jaide Wairoa

Stars: Lena Hunt, *Flames:* Ellie Raynes, *Cheetahs:* Mehtab Kaur, *Rainbows:* Inayat Kaur. The Opaheke Netball Club wishes to acknowledge the generous sponsorship of Fulton Hogan, Bears Junior Sport, Guys Pharmacy, Sanford, Parker Pens, Foohey markers, The National Bank. Your gifts and financial support were very much appreciated.

Nominated for the Papakura Volunteer Recognition Awards

Wayne and Christine Hare, Lillian Petrie, Desiree Grace, George and Jo Pritchard. These parents will all be acknowledged and thanked for their work with the Opaheke Netball teams at a special breakfast at the Hawkins Centre on Friday 19 September.

Celebrating Other Successes:

Gymnastics: At the Counties North Gymnastics Field Day on 28th August: Yr 5 girls 2nd, Yr 5 boys 2nd, Yr 6 girls 3rd, Yr 7 girls 1st, Yr 7 boys 2nd, Yr 8 girls 1st, Yr 8 boys 3rd.

Individual Results: Alan Robinson Yr 8 1st overall, Analeea Williamson Yr 8 2nd, Dania Smiley Yr 7 2nd, Natasha Tulp Yr 7 3rd, Bruce Rosemergy Yr 6 3rd, Jade Tulp Yr 5 3rd and Nathan Rubin Yr 5 3rd.

Counties Zone Gymnastics at Pukekohe 5th September Yr 7/8:

Yr 8 girls Team B 1st Destiny Grace, Team A 2nd Adeline Shaddick, Analeea Williamson, Teresa McCarthy. Yr 7 girls Team A 1st Dania Smiley, Natasha Tulp, Kyra France. Yr 7 girls Team B 3rd Jenna Homewood, Madison Lunny, Hritika Ghaiee. Yr 7/8 boys Team A 1st Alan Robinson, James Nattrass.

Interzone Gymnastics will take place – Wednesday 17th September at New Lynn.

Crosscountry: Yr 5/6 results for the Counties North field day at TeHihi School: Jade Tulp 3rd Yr 5 girls. The year 5 girls team came in at 2nd place overall.

Interzone Crosscountry at Woodhill Forest for Yr 7/8 only on 29 August.

Finn Taylor, Natasha Tulp, Destiny Grace, Maia Jean Watene, Madison Lunny and Taylor Mager all represented Counties Schools!

Basketball: At the Auckland Interzone competition at Waitakere on 3rd September, Destiny Grace, Katie Maihi, Charlotte Pritchard, Analeea Williamson and Maia Jean Watene all represented Counties schools!

Teacher Appreciation Day: This was very much enjoyed by teachers last Friday. The first Friday in September is a special day for students to honour their teachers and to let them know how much they are appreciated. Thank you parents for your support for this special day.

