

Community Notices:

- Saturday 26 May the Papakura District Council is again planting trees to commemorate the birth of children born or resident in the local district between June 2006 and the planting date. Register your child by Wednesday 23 May with the Papakura District Council, or complete a form from the School office.

Coming Events

Thur 17 May	tomorrow School Councillors attend Young Leaders conference at Telstra Centre
Mon 21 May	7.30pm PTA meeting in staffroom all parents welcome
Wed 23 May	University of New South Wales Mathematics test. Youth Expo begins
Thur/Fri 24/25 May	Papakura Youth Expo continues
Mon 28 May	Cool Kids Care – performers in school programme
Thur 31 May	Counties North School winter sports field day
Mon 4 June	Queens Birthday holiday
Wed 6 June	Counties Zone rugby field day for selected Yr 7/8 boys

Quiz: A rich man died and made this provision in his will. I leave to my beloved nephew all of the money that he owes me. Would the nephew receive any money?

Quote: ‘The art of conversation is not only to say the right thing in the right place, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment’

Best wishes

Murray Wratt
Principal

Answer to Quiz: no, because he had owed it to the uncle in the first place

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

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Newsletter No 06/07

“The Opaheke Way”

Dear Parents,
Greetings to all of you from us at School. I hope that Mothers Day was a happy rewarding experience for all of our wonderful mothers.

Keeping Safe On Roads: The police are urging schools to support those students doing road patrol monitor duties each school day by ensuring that there is a parent ‘supervisor’ present. At School, we take road safety seriously and the PTA is working to arrange a parent roster for Tasman Drive before school. Adults delivering their child to school are urged to think about keeping all of our children safe by taking a turn on the roster. We do not want however to take any parents off the Opaheke Road parent roster but a group of parents may be willing to take a turn. A special thanks to Mrs Lorraine Deane who has started the roster on Tasman Drive.



Board of Trustees: The School’s incoming Board of Trustees held its first meeting last week. Officer holders elected were: Chairman – Neil Shaddick; Secretary – Alison Kemp; Treasurer – Mike Capper. They will have many issues to deal with over the next three years and it would be helpful to them to know that they enjoy strong parent support. Our best wishes to all of the Board.

Parent Interviews: These will be held a few days after mid year reports come home. The reports will therefore form a useful basis for discussions between teacher and parents. At this stage we are planning to hold interviews at the end of the second term, probably Wednesday 27 June.

Knowing Your Child: How well as a parent do you really know your child? How well do they really know you? Here are some ideas from senior primary aged children about how they want their parents to treat them.

- ❖ Spend time with me
- ❖ Talk things over with me
- ❖ When I am angry, let me cool down
- ❖ Be fair

- ❖ Don't put me down, tease me or insult me
- ❖ Show me what you want
- ❖ Keep your promises
- ❖ Don't expect me to do things I'm unable to do
- ❖ Encourage me
- ❖ Notice when I behave well and praise me

If as parents, we can keep to the 'ten commandments' above we are on the right track to raise well adjusted alert children.

Sausage Sizzle: Thankyou to families who supported the School Councillors sausage sizzle last week. A total of \$330 was raised to help the Saturday netball teams costs.

Celebrating Success: Congratulations to the following:

- Sophia Tadi Yr 6 Courtney France, Rachel Millar and Rachel Ritchie all Yr 7 who were placed in the top ten for the Whalewatch Kaikoura NZ Geographic nationwide essay writing competition. Sophia was placed 4th over the whole country.
- Miss MacLeod who graduated from the University of Auckland with a Bachelor of Teaching last Wednesday.
- Those wonderful parents who take a turn with road patrol supervision, lunch orders, library work, painting playground markings, barbecuing sausages, coaching or managing School teams or the myriad of jobs our parents do. You are truly the backbone of the school.



Thankyou: To New Zealand Steel who donated 4 Safety Vests for our parents to wear when supervising crossing duty.

Wanted, Wanted: Envelopes for Reading Recovery please. They can be pre-used, or ex commercial stock or supplies.

Fear Factor: Last Friday, three teams from Yr 7/8 took part in Fear Factor Challenge at Pukekohe; a day of team competitions organised by Police Blue Light disco. Congratulations to those top athletes and a special thankyou to Senior Constable Karen Purdie who co-ordinated our School's entries.

Honouring Outstanding Teachers: Has your child been taught by an outstanding teacher who has 'made the difference'? The National Excellence in Teaching Awards Foundation each year offers an opportunity to publicly recognise and encourage outstanding teachers who help shape the future of the country. The NEITA Foundation is the only national awards programme where school

communities can nominate teachers who demonstrate excellence in the teaching progression. Nomination forms are available from the School Office.

Class and Team Photos: These will be taken on Thursday 7 June and all children have been given an envelope to return with money if parents would like a copy.



Family Photos: For your information the PTA will again be arranging for these to be taken on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June, more details will follow closer to the date.

Amenity Draw: As a thankyou to our parents who have endeavoured to pay their school amenity we held our second prize draw at assembly last Monday for two donated prizes. Congratulations to Reid Fullerton and Aaron Homewood whose families were winners.

Mothers Day: Some brilliant answers provided by 7 year olds to big questions:

2. Why did God give you your mother and not some other mother?
 - we're related
 - God knew that she likes me a lot more than other people's mums like me
3. Why did your mum marry your dad?
 - my dad makes the best spaghetti in the world and my mum eats a lot
 - she got too old to do anything else with him
 - my grandma says that mum didn't have her thinking cap on
4. Who is the boss at your house?
 - mum doesn't want to be boss, but she has to because dad's such a clot
 - my mum, you can tell by room inspection, she sees the stuff under the bed
 - I guess mum is, but only because she has a lot more to do than dad
5. What would it take to make your mum perfect?
 - on the inside, she's already perfect, outside I think some kind of plastic surgery
 - diet, you know her hair, I'd diet it maybe blue
 - I would like for her to get rid of those invisible eyes on the back of her head

PTA Milk Bottle Recycling: Thank you to those parents who are supporting this. Please remember *not to crush the bottles* and *to leave the lids on them*. The organisation collecting them can only use bottles that are uncrushed and have a lid on them. Thank you.

