

### **Coming Events:**

|              |                                                                                 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thur 19 June | class and team photographs<br>School Councillors' sausage sizzle                |
| Mon 23 June  | 7.00pm PTA Special meeting to finalise constitution                             |
| Wed 25 June  | Yr5/6 Counties North winter sports field day.                                   |
| Mon 30 June  | 'Rock and Water' end of programme outing Rms 1, 2 and 3                         |
| Tue 1 July   | Junior School holding a folk dancing display 10.30pm                            |
| Wed 2 July   | 'DARE' end of programme outing Rms 4 & 19                                       |
| Thur 3 July  | 1pm Travel Wise committee meets at School<br>Mid year School reports come home. |
| Fri 4 July   | Last day of Term Two<br>School finishes at 1.30pm on this day                   |
| Mon 21 July  | School opens for Term Three                                                     |

**Quiz:** Why is twice ten like two times eleven?

**Quote:** Talk is cheap because the supply exceeds the demand.

**Travel Wise:** Save petrol, lose kilograms, volunteer for the walking school bus.

Best Wishes

Murray Wratt  
Principal

Answer to Quiz: one answer is 22 and the other is twenty too!

# OPAHEKE SCHOOL

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## “The Opaheke Way”

Dear Parents,  
Greetings to all of you. Next Sunday is the shortest day for 2008 and it's a great time of the year to rediscover the pleasures of reading.

**What Makes a Child Intelligent?:** Is it getting straight A's on their report? Knowing without a calculator that  $689 \times 23 = 15,847$ ? Being able to recite Coleridge's Ancient Mariner by heart. Or is it something else? Researchers of human intelligence are now informing us that the difference could be a greater level of emotional intelligence, a term first used in 1995 by an American psychologist Daniel Goleman. We used to think of intelligence as intellect or cognitive ability ie being clever or quick of mind. These days intelligence is judged in other ways – in relation to emotions. Emotional intelligence or EQ the other side of IQ describes an ability to assess, understand and manage emotions, not just our own but also of others and of groups. It's about relating to people, adapting to and coping with those around us. Higher EQ is often associated with leadership and inspiring others. The good news for those of us who don't feel especially clever, is that we can lift our general intelligence by becoming more aware of our own and others' emotions. This in turn helps everybody navigate our increasingly complex work environment. Some researchers believe that EQ and IQ contribute equally to a person's general intelligence. Overall, general intelligence may be a better predictor of how well a person will succeed in work situations, social experiences and general achievements in life. The overall message is trust your gut instincts, listen with your ear, watch carefully and think about what your feelings tell you.



**Being On Time for School:** The Opaheke School day begins at 8.25am each morning when school starts. It is of concern to teachers that too many children are consistently arriving late for school because of a variety of reasons, many arising from the home organisation. Parents, please ensure that your children are at school before the day's start to lessons. This builds sound habits about being organised, being responsible and being ready for the day at school before 8.25am.

**Is There a Problem at School for Your Child?:** On occasions there may be issues or concerns that parents wish to discuss with the school. We do take these concerns seriously and will do our best to resolve a problem or address a concern. There are procedures to follow in the above situations.

- ✓ Ring for an appointment to discuss the concern directly with your child's teacher. In most cases this will lead to a resolution.
- ✓ If the resolution is unsuccessful make an appointment to meet with the Team Leader. They will investigate the matter and discuss the matter with all concerned.
- ✓ The parent may ask to meet with the Deputy Principal should the issue not be addressed. The Deputy Principal will investigate further and notify the Principal as well.

These steps will usually resolve the problem or concern. The best time to make an appointment is after school as teachers are usually very busy before school. Teachers will enter into dialogue and are happy to communicate with parents regarding issues that may arise.

**Thankyou, Thankyou:** A special thanks to the PTA for the netball team shirts and undershirts for our School teams. The local netball courts are surely a cold place on Saturday mornings! Money left over from the April carnival will be used to fund a visiting school's programme. The PTA wishes to sincerely thank all of those parents who helped with the carnival.

**Numeracy Workshop For Parents:** In response to a number of requests from parents about the Numeracy programme, staff will be organising a workshop for parents on Numeracy during the Third Term. Read next term's newsletters for more information.



**Security Cameras:** These have been placed on the School premises to ensure the ongoing safety of students, staff and property.

**Celebrating Successes:** Congratulations to the following students:

- ☺ Tony Kemp, Clayton Rubin, Reef Vehi Vehi Tau, Nigel Angell, Richard Phippen, Neil Smithson, Josh Lunny, Hohaia Brown, Arman Juanmiry, Rory Barton and Jonathan Cato all selected to represent Counties North in the Counties Rugby Field Day. The 6 first named boys were in the Under 45kg team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Counties grade.
- ☺ To all of the Yr7/8 students who participated in the Counties North winter sports field day two weeks ago playing netball, soccer, tapuae or rugby. Our netball teams were 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, our soccer teams were placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, the tapuae teams were 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> while the rugby team was 1<sup>st</sup>.

- ☺ To our 8 School Councillors who organise some additional lunchtime activities for the students at school. Alex, Josh, Destiny, Jonathan, Finn, Adeline, Darby and Christian organised Wheels Day, a remote control vehicle day and sausage sizzle all aimed at making our school an enjoyable place to be during the lunchtimes.

**PTA Constitution:** The PTA are currently drawing up a constitution as they prepare to become a registered non profit organisation with the Charities Commission before the 1<sup>st</sup> July. Copies of the draft constitution are available from the School office and any parent is welcome to make a submission about the draft to the School Secretary who will pass them on to the PTA.



**Lost Property:** The 'mound' of items in our lost property seems to be growing. Parents are welcome to come and look through it for any clothing items children may have misplaced this term. Items are outside Room 10.

**Unsuitable Software:** Yes, we do have unsuitable computer software brought to School sometimes. Last week a copy of Grand Theft Auto, an R18 game, was brought by a young pupil to School. Such software is quite inappropriate for young children and is unacceptable at this school.

**Plastic Milk Cartons:** This is still continuing. This PTA project collects empty plastic 2ltr milk containers. Please remember not to crush the containers. Rinse them out and leave the lids on. Cartons of these make excellent crash barriers and the PTA gets payment for collecting them.

**Incredible Science:** The faculty of Science at the University of Auckland will be holding its annual 'Incredible Science' festival on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July the first Monday of the July holidays. Aimed at primary aged students, this free day long festival aims to promote the fun and variety of Science. The days events will include the popular Physics and Chemistry magic shows as well as new and interesting activities.

**Kids for Kids Concert:** Last evening our School choir participated in the annual Kids for Kids concert at Telstra Centre, Manukau. Organised by World Vision, this concert show cases children singing with guest artist Susanne Prentice. Congratulations to all who took part and to the choir trainers, Ms Edwards & Miss Bolstad.