

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

Sharing Caring Learning And Achieving

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“The Opaheke Way”

NEWSLETTER NO 07/10

19 May 2010

Dear Parents,
Greetings to all of you as we near the middle of a busy second term. Next month teachers will be turning their minds towards mid year reports.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION

Votes for our next Board of Trustees were counted late last week. The successful candidates names are recorded below:

*Grant Maclachlan
Michael Capper
Andrew Wickers
Deborah Honan
Michael Gilmore*

A sincere thankyou is extended to the 3 unsuccessful candidates; these people ensured that all of our parents had a choice in their voting.

THANKYOU THANKYOU

A special thanks is offered on behalf of all of our parents to Neil Shaddick, Sue Costello and Alison Kemp. Opaheke School owes each of these people a debt of gratitude for their knowledge, support and wisdom.

Mr Shaddick has been Chairperson of the Board for six years and his support for Opaheke School has been constant and consistent. Opaheke School has been very well served in the past by our Boards and we will want this to continue. There will be many issues for the next Board to cope with over the next three years.

NEW CLASS

Next week, a new Year One class will be started with Miss Stephanie McLachlan in Room 15. This class will be comprised of children moving out of the two New Entrant classes. Many our students already know Miss McLachlan as she taught at Opaheke School in 2009 and has been relief teaching in several classes.

BUS MONITORS

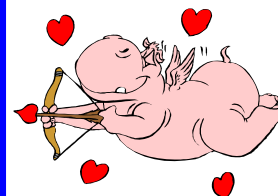
Congratulations to our four bus monitors for 2010. Recently Tori Stevenson, Jeremy Collins, Erica Fullerton and Mitchell Holmes received their bus monitor's badges.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *BOT Elections*
- *PTA*
- *Travel Wise*

Fun Fact

A
Hippopotamus
can run
faster than a
man.



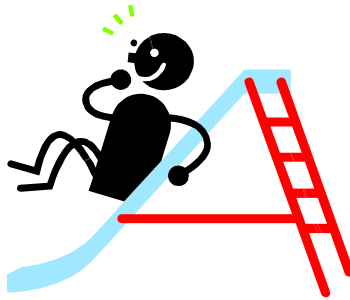
TRUANCY

If you notice school age children 'wandering' around the streets or outside playing during school hours please phone Papakura Truancy Services on 800WAGGING (0800 9244464)

DRAWING A LINE IN THE PLAYGROUND

A small number of our School's middle school students have been testing the boundaries of the code of behaviour expected of them. While realising that part of growing up may involve testing accepted limits, it is important that parents realise that we do have high expectations and our previous Board of Trustees was ready to act decisively when those students were referred to them for further consideration. Some no longer attend this School! Teachers in the Year 5/6 classes have initiated a programme that rewards those students who make their best effort to show responsible actions. Those who fail to measure up, are drawn off into less pleasant, closely supervised 'activities' over an afternoon every

2-3 weeks.



PARENT INTERVIEWS

It is pleasing to report that 96% of all of our parents have attended either parent interviews or student centred conferences. Congratulations. Nine classes achieved a 100% record of parents attending. This is affirming for staff because it does show that parents are interested and do want to know how their children are achieving. For those parents unable to attend a conference or interview, teachers are willing to make a time convenient to both parties.

SCHOOL CHOIR

Choir members are busy preparing for two major music festivals this year with Miss Bolstad and Miss Walker. Kids For Kids with Suzanne Prentice at Telstra Centre evening on Tuesday 15 June and Papakura Primary Schools Music Festival at Te Hihi School early in August. They are having practices several lunch-times each week and later there will be combined rehearsals.



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Congratulations to the following students.

- Counties North Soccer Squad Girls—Gabriella Boyce, Emma Morris, Caitlin Pritchard and Jade Tulp.
- Counties North Soccer Squad Boys—Yr8 Thor Eastwood, Liam Costello

Ben Greive, Bruce Rosemergy. Yr7 Mateo Fumero, Joshua Muir, Alex Greive, Callum Robinson, Navrajdeep Singh, Anthony Smith.

- Papakura Netball Association Yr 7 Squad; Jade Tulp

NETBALL

Thank you to Merran Grayson-Mills for organising Club Duty and thanks to all the parents who helped make this a successful Club Duty. We had all areas covered at all times.

TRAVELWISE

'Park & Walk'. We have been running this promotion for the last three Tuesdays and it has been very successful. Students and parents took part by meeting with one of the Travel Wise Team at Gaylands Place, Railway Street or Albert Street and collecting a 'leaf'. The leaves were then put onto our Walkers Tree in the hall and winners names were drawn out at school assembly. We'd like to congratulate the following winners:

Parents: Dianne Rhodes (mum of Carla), Barbara Beams (mum of Ashleigh).

Students: Maddisyn Hughes-Afoa Room 10, Zion Metu Room 5, Annie Mills Room 5 and Kenzie Dempster Room 16.

As a result of this campaign we are now starting two new Walking School Buses (WSB) from Albert Street and Gaylands Place. If you would like to join a WSB please meet at one of these locations at 8am on Tuesdays. For further information please see our flyer or contact melissap@opaheke.school.nz

READING RESULTS

Recently our School received results of reading tests of our 5 year old pupils who were re tested at 5 1/2 years of age in late 2009 through the Papakura Achievement Initiative. Five areas of early reading were assessed when children were retested. The percentage of students who were at a typical or advanced grade increased significantly.

Letter Identification:

From 58% to 82%

Concepts about print:

From 32% to 84%

Sample Reading (based on Marie Clay reading Level):

From 42% to 87%

Writing vocabulary:

From 55% to 84%

Hearing & Reading

Sounds In Words:

61% to 90%

The intensive teaching in the PAI is certainly benefitting our pupils as they learn to read in order that they may read to learn.

DO YOU HAVE PRE-SCHOOLERS AT HOME?

Would you like to take part in a piece of university based research? The University of Auckland is coordinating research on the effectiveness of two separate two hour discussion groups aimed at supporting parents of pre-school children to

- A) develop positive ways of dealing with difficult behaviours.
- B) Managing bed time problems.

There is no cost involved,

and if you are interested in volunteering or would like further information please contact Cathy or Marcela on 623 8899 ext 83042 or via email: tprg@auckland.ac.nz.

QUOTE

Enjoy the little things,
for one day
you may
look back
and realise
they were
the big
things.

Robert Brault

COMMUNITY NOTICES: Bluelight Winter Disco in Farmers Carpark O'Shannessey St Papakura Friday 28th May 2010. Years 0 to 5, 5.30pm to 7pm and Years 6 to 8, 7.30pm to 9pm. Cost \$3, permission slips from school office.

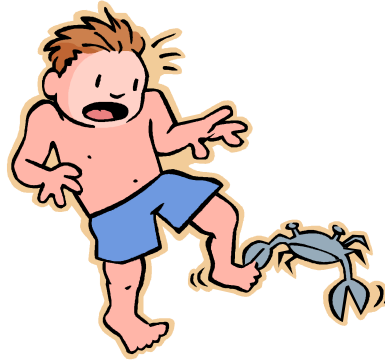
COMING EVENTS

Today	CocaCola Netball Tournament (two teams entered)
Fri 21 May	Yr5/6 classes to Auckland Botanical Gardens Manurewa
Wed 26 May	Yr5/6 Counties North Winter Sports Field Day
Thurs 27 May	Yr7/8 Counties North Winter Sports Field Day
Thurs 3 June	Financial Literacy programme in School part 1 of 3 days
Mon 7 June	Queens Birthday
Wed 9 June	Financial Literacy programme part 2 of 3 days
Thurs 10 June	Counties Zone Yr7/8 rugby field day
Tues 15 June	Kids For Kids Musical concert at Telstra Centre, evening

QUOTE

*ALL KIDS ARE GIFTED,
SOME JUST OPEN THEIR PACKAGES
EARLIER THAN OTHERS*

Michael Carr



Quiz:

Angela left on a trip the day after the day before yesterday and she will be back on the eve of the day after tomorrow. How many days is she away?

Best wishes

*Murray Wratt
Principal*

Answer to Quiz: Three days and two nights—she left yesterday and will return tomorrow.