

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

Sharing Caring Learning And Achieving

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“The Opaheke Way”

NEWSLETTER NO 15/09

12 August 2009

Dear Parents, a warm welcome to all of the School's parents as we race into a very busy Term Four. Welcome to our new families and to our 5 New Entrants who have started their educational journey with us.

SCHOOL GALA

10 Days to go!! Our small gala committee are working hard to bring everything



together for the big day. If you have not already volunteered to help, but can give some time, **please** contact the school office. Many families asked to have our school Gala reinstated as this was always a great day and a good fundraiser for our PTA. However we need lots of help. Parents and teachers will all be working on Sunday 1 November and we will need help setting up before 9am and cleaning up afterwards. Any amount of time you can give will be appreciated!

- **CLASS HELPERS**— you will have received a request for help with the stall run by your child's classroom, please fill these in and send them back.
- **CAR BOOT SALE**— we still have some spaces available \$15/car. This is a great way to sell off your unwanted treasures or your hand made craft work.
- **FOOD ITEMS**—We are still collecting food items for quick fire raffles and bottles for games. Can you help?

SCHOOL UNIFORM SUNHATS

A reminder that the School Board of Trustees has a policy of compulsory sunhats for children in Terms 1 & 4. Our uniform hat is a royal blue full brimmed hat with or without our school Logo. This is a *uniform item* and variations of this are not accept-

able. Some parents are purchasing 'bucket' style hats which are not acceptable. Hats are only available through the school office. Plain \$12 or Logo \$18. All children are expected to be wearing these by next Monday Children not wearing the school sunhat will be

unable to participate in outdoor sports or play on the fields.

OPAHEKE SCHOOL DENTAL CLINIC

The Rosehill Intermediate school dental clinic is closing on 16.10.09. The Opaheke Dental Clinic is reopening on 19.10.09.

PHONE 09 2999770

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *School Sunhats*
- *Gala*
- *NZ Curriculum*
- *Save Our Streams*



CARTRIDGE RE CYCLING

We would like to thank those parents who have supported us with this fundraiser for the PTA. We will no longer be collecting used printer cartridges as our recycler has stopped taking them. Please keep sending along clean, uncrushed 2lt milk bottles, top on, as we are still participating in this fundraiser.

NEW ZEALAND CURRICULUM

Over the last 1½ years, our School has been preparing for the introduction of the NZ Curriculum in 2010. The priorities in this 'new' curriculum will continue to be a focus on reading, writing and mathematics but there are some exciting future focused components as well. The Key competencies teach children the skills of learning how to learn as they navigate their way in an increasingly technological and connected world. Another exciting aspect is a focus on the development of their natural curiosity, thinking skills and creativity. As a forerunner to our Opaheke School curriculum we now have a confirmed

Mission Statement—

Sharing, Caring Learning and Achieving.

Shared Vision—*Empowering our community of learners to confidently meet the challenges of the 21st century.*

Values—*Respect for others and self respect. Striving for excellence. Achieving personal best.*

Curriculum Areas—*English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Technology, Health & Physical Education, The Arts, Languages.*

The New Zealand Curriculum provides a positive framework for preparing our children for their futures. In our school we will continue to assess each child's progress in relation to the levels of the curriculum using assessment tools and tests to work out the important next steps in their

learning. We will continue to track and monitor the progress of each student to put in place extra support where needed and to challenge and extend those who are gifted and talented. Each one of our students is different, they have different talents, interests and capabilities and they all learn at different rates and in different ways. This is the challenge for each teacher; to bring their passion, work ethic and skills to teach our diverse students, setting high expectations that will raise achievement and self esteem.

**COUNT YOUR
NIGHTS BY
STARS NOT
SHADOWS,
COUNT YOUR
LIFE WITH
SMILES NOT
TEARS**

ITALIAN PROVERB

NEW CLASS

This term, a new class of Year One children has been prepared and they are in Room 12 with Miss Stephanie McLachlan. We welcome Miss McLachlan to our staff and school.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE:

Tomorrow (Thursday 22nd) our School Councillors will be holding a Sausage Sizzle. Money raised will go to assist the appeal for victims of the Samoan tsunami, the 2010 Year 8 camp, and Mercy Missions. Sausages \$1 each for beef and \$2 for chicken.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Mrs Wendy Beever our Saturday netball school Teams co-ordinator. Wendy received a Volunteer Award at the Counties Manukau Sports Foundation presentation on 25 September. Thoroughly well deserved.

PTA CALENDARS & CARDS

Last week order forms for Calendars and Cards went home. Children are busy preparing art work for these, they make wonderful presents at Christmas time. If you did not receive order forms but would like to order, please send a note to the school office and we will send them home. This is a great fundraiser for our PTA.

STUDENT TEACHERS:

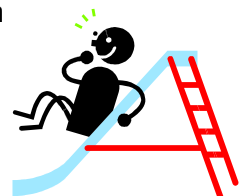
At present we are hosting 7

teachers in training from University of Auckland and Massey University who are completing their in School practicums.

PLAYGROUND PROJECTS:

Over the recent holidays, two major projects have been commenced. The swimming pool has been sandblasted, repaired and will have three coats of paint applied.

The junior adventure playground has a new base matting structure and will have an overhead canopy installed to keep out the full heat of the summer sun—as well as the rain! When completed, both projects will enhance our playground facilities in a significant way for our pupils.



CELEBRATING SUCCESSES

Congratulations to the following students:

- University of New South Wales English test results—Distinction 90-99%; Yr8 Jessica Petersen. Yr6 Chhavi Breja, Vincent Diep, Connor McCormick. Yr 4 Angus Cameron, Sahil Tiku Credit 70-89%; Yr8 Andrew Cooksley, Melanie John, Alexander Wiggans. Yr7 Erin Pepper, Lindon Lewis, Joshua Lowe. Yr 6 Samuel Earl, Megan Weir. Yr5 Thomas Edwards, Alyssa Feau, Anqi Yang,. Yr 4 Georgia Butler, Chelsea Ross.
- Science Fair Results - Yr8 1st= Jenna Home-

wood/ Olivia Foster, Melanie John. 2nd Charlotte Pritchard. 3rd Natasha Tulp. Highly Commended Ashleigh Bradstreet, Cayley Colyer, Andrew Cooksley. Yr7 1st Joshua Lowe, 2nd Kane Wadsworth, 3rd= Ronnie Shaddick/Ben Grieve, Bruce Rosemergy. Highly Commended Liam Costello, Lauren Kerr/ D'Arcy Knight, Kendyl Knight, Erin Pepper

- Music—Troy Martin and Christian Chappelle who performed with great credit in the Papakura RSA



Brass Band concert last weekend.

- Stardome—Anna Fairweather Yr4 for 1st place in the Stardome Rocket competition.

TEAM UP WEBSITE:

A very informative website for parents and worth a look www.teamup.co.nz

SCHOOL AMENITY:

The Board is very appreciative of those parents who pay this and wishes to remind all parents that 33% of the amenity can be claimed back when making an annual tax return. We will have the refund form available in the office if you would like a copy when you are completing your

tax returns. All Year 7 & 8 children should now be fully paid for Technology Fees. If you still have outstanding fees could you please attend to these as soon as possible.

STATIONERY 2010

Stationery lists will soon be available for next year. We will send

these out with information for purchasing packs from School Supplies as we have done in previous years The early notification of costs will hopefully help parents with budgeting for next year. ...



Walking School Bus Family Fun Day Picnic.

15 Nov 11-2pm. Milford Reserve, Craig Rd Milford. Clowns, Lolly Scramble, Walking School Bus Game, Bouncy Castles, Prizes and more. Ph 295 1300 for further details

Community Notices:

1. Harvest Kids Party—Friday 30th October at Harvest Christian Church 3 Beach Road Papakura. Gold coin entry. Theme “Carnival” dress up in carnival theme ie clown, ringmaster, acrobat etc (NO Halloween costumes please). Session 1—Yr1-4 6.00-7.30pm. Session 2—Yr5-8 7.30pm-9.00pm Drop off at the Auditorium, pick up from the Hall. Entertainment, Dancing, Games,

Spot Prizes, Free Loot Bags—a great and safe alternative to Halloween. Phone 299 9394. 2. Papakura Swimming Club is now taking registrations for the summer season. Lessons for beginner club swimmers through to senior competitive, fitness and triathletes phone 292 7910 or text 021 1574037. 3. In Goodtime HorsePark. Riding lessons on miniature & small ponies in Karaka ph 09

2919153 or ingoodtime-horsepark@xtra.co.nz.

4. Do you live in Opaheke? SOS Papakura Wai Care have adopted the Short Street and Greenhaven Reserves. If you want to help your neighbours look after the Reserves, please contact Darryl Nightingale on sos.papakura.wai.care@gmail.com or phone 299 3978.



COMING EVENTS

Monday 26 Oct	Labour Day, public holiday
Thursday 29 Oct	Junior classes to Auckland War Memorial Museum
Friday 30-Saturday 31 Oct	Pre Gala organisation and preparation
Sun 1 Nov	School Gala 9-1pm
Tues 3 Nov	Full rehearsal for choir at Auckland Town Hall
Wed 4 Nov	APPA Music festival at Auckland Town Hall –evening

Quiz: Name the odd word out of this group

Walked

Road

Sailed

Travelled

Flew

Best wishes

Murray Wratt

Principal

Answer to Quiz Travelled, all other are specific ways of travelling