

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

Sharing Caring Learning And Achieving

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“The Opaheke Way”

NEWSLETTER NO 03/10

24 March 2010

Dear Parents,
Greetings to all of you as we near the end of Term One. Next Thursday 1st April is the last day of the term with Good Friday on the 2nd April. Please note that school on that day will finish at 1.30pm.

PARENT INTERVIEWS

Next Wednesday 31st March, students will be dismissed from School at 1 pm to enable parent interviews and student led

conferences to take place. Teachers will be fully booked from 1 pm on into the evening. This year for the first time, the Year 5/6 pupils will also be participating with parents and class teacher in reviewing their progress and setting future learning goals. For those parents still to send back their returns, please move quickly. Limited spaces are still available. Should this day/ time not suit, teacher are willing to reschedule to a mutually agreeable time either before Wednesday or early next term. Unfortunately evening appointments are not available on other days. It is an expectation at our School that every responsible parent will attend an interview to find out how their child is progressing and we are looking forward to a 100% turn out.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Parent Interviews
- PTA
- Celia Lashlie Speaking Engagements

Fun Fact

Fingerprints of koala bears and humans are virtually indistinguishable.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS:

In late April, all parents and caregivers will take part in electing our next School's Board parent representatives. Nominations are now open and those adults interested in standing for the Board have until Wednesday 21st April to get their forms in to the School office. Some of our Board members will be stepping back from Board duties in May and it is vital to our School's wellbeing that sensible parents with the interests of all students and staff are elected. Parents will elect 5 parent representatives who along with the staff rep and the Principal constitute the Opaheke School Board of Trustees. Boards play a major role by providing the wise governance that sets the general direction for this School and enables the Principal and staff to fulfil the day to day leadership and management.

FAMILY CARNIVAL

This coming Friday evening from 4 to 7pm is the occasion for our Family Carnival. There will be games, cake stalls, face painting, barbecues, a children's cracker eating competition and an adults weetbix eating competition. This a fun evening for all of our pupils and parents to enjoy as families.

PTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held last week and our workers on the PTA are looking for some parents to take on a leadership role. We are wanting a Chairperson, Treasurer and a Secretary to help maintain the PTA's direction. There are plenty of helpers for the fun events or fundraisers but they need some Leaders. Can you help? The

The next meeting is Monday 26th April at 7.30pm and we are looking forward to strong support from our parents. Our PTA have been an active group for the School and over the last year a total of \$53,000 was donated for programme support eg outdoor education camp and resources such as two sets of computers on wheels. This is a fun way to meet other families and become involved in you children's school lives.

VISIT BY CELIA LASHLIE

For further details please see the insert in this newsletter. Celia Lashlie has had a career spanning managing Christchurch Women's Prison, working with young offenders, as a prison warden and an author of books about boys. The Papakura Achievement Initiative

has arranged for Celia to speak to teachers about raising boys and boys achievement. To enable our teachers to hear about boys and their achievement the Board has decided that students will be dismissed at 1 pm on Tuesday 27 April. This conference for all Papakura Primary school teachers will be held in our School hall and the grounds will be used for off street parking. There will be some supervision available if parents can't pick children up at the earlier time. That same evening, there will an opportunity for parents to hear Celia Lashlie's messages at Kelvin Road School in their School Hall starting at 7.00pm Tuesday 27 April. There is no charge to attend.

MATHLETICS

We are able to take some new enrolments for Mathletics for those students who would still like to join for the remainder of the year. Forms are available from the office and must be returned with payment before Friday 23 April. The cost will be \$22.50.

SATURDAY NETBALL

Mrs Beever, with assistance from Miss MacLeod and Mrs Goodison have been collecting signatures, fees, distributing uniforms and putting together our School teams for the 2010

Saturday morning Papakura Netball Association. The School will be entering 5 teams. Grading games will be starting on 27 March and the season will finish on 14 August.



CAN YOU HELP?

Parents/helpers are needed to monitor the crossing on Opaheke Road and Tasman Drive. Children are rostered on duty from 8.00 am until approx 8.20 am and 2.30 pm until 2.45 pm. Adult supervision is needed to help support the Road Patrol Monitors. Helpers are rostered on either morn-

ing or afternoon and this duty comes up approximately 1 session every 2 weeks depending on the numbers of helpers we have. You are asked to be available while the Patrol Monitors are on duty and only need to stand to the side of the monitors in a prominent position to give them support if needed. They

are all trained and very reliable. If your children use the crossing and you can spare 20 minutes once every 1-2 weeks please contact Lesley on 299 9821 or at the school office. ***We need your help!***



MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES

This year there are a number of options available through our School, these include;

- ♫ Brass band tuition by Mr Ian Levien which is being funded this year by the Board of Trustees.
- ♫ Kids for Kids choir to be held at Telstra Events Centre on Tuesday 15 June during the evening.
- ♫ Papakura Music Festival in early August for our senior singers. This is the biennial event for all Papakura Primary Schools and takes place during two evening performances and a matinee.

SCHOOL DONATION

Well done to all of our parents who have paid

the 2010 School amenity. Parents have also taken up the opportunity to make regular payments over the year. Our BOT rely on this financial support from our parent population to plan for a number of additions to the School curriculum, extra staffing especially in the junior school and resources. Your support is appreciated. Thankyou very much.

CELEBRATING SUCCESSES

Congratulations to the following:

- ★ Jade Tulp who competed in both the Colgate North Island athletics and Counties Athletics sports
- ★ Yr7/8 interschool relay swimming team placed 3rd at the George Keown swimming relays—Catilin Pritchard, Erica Fullerton,

Ellie Raynes and Jade Tulp.

STAFF CHANGE

Ms Jolly will be on maternity leave as from next term. Her work, which involves small group teaching and class release will be carried on by Mrs Jo Molyneux and Mrs Anne Potter, two of the School's part time teachers. We all wish Tilly well.

QUOTE

**When you put faith,
hope and love
together, you can
raise positive
children in a negative
world.**

Community Notices

1. Playcentre "Play in the Park" 27th March 2010 Central Park Papakura 10am-2pm. Suitable for 0-6 year olds. Gold coin donation Playdough, water play, story telling, music/dance, bouncy castles, BBQ, Cake stall and more.
2. St Mary's School Gala Sunday 28th March 10.30am start.
3. After School Science and Technology Club at Drury Primary School \$30 per session or \$200 for 8 weeks in term 2 (all materials included). Ph 09238 1080 www.etec.net.nz
4. Have fun at Snowplanet these April school holidays! Snowplanet, offering a winter wonderland experience just 20 minutes north of the Bridge, is a wonderful school holiday destination. The very popular kid's school holiday programmes comes with a 2 hour ski or snowboard group lesson (beginners to advanced) each day, rental equipment, a graduation meal on the last day, a snow academy achievement booklet and a huge amount of fun! For enquiries or bookings contact Snowplanet on 094270044 extension 725 or email groups@snowplanet.co.nz. Visit snowplanet's website www.snowplanet.co.nz

COMING EVENTS

Thur 25 March	Yr7/8 Counties North Summer Sports Field Day
Fri 26 March	Kids Carnival Evening 4-7pm
Wed 31 March	Parent Interviews afternoon and evening, students dismissed at 1pm.
Thur 1 April	Last day of Term One school finishes at 1.30pm
Please note, the Ponga Road bus will depart School at the earlier times on both days.	
Mon 19 April	School starts for Term One
Mon 26 April	7.30pm PTA meeting in staffroom
Tues 27 April	Students dismissed at 1pm—all teachers attending address by Celia Lashlie. 7pm parents meeting at Kelvin Road School Hall for Celia Lashlie evening.

Quiz: What have you got when you hold 5 apples in one hand and 6 apples in the other? (answer below)

Best wishes

Murray Wratt

Principal