

Community Notices

Snowplanet, offering a winter wonderland experience just 20 minutes north of the Bridge, is proud to support our school and offers great deals for families and kids during the September/October school holidays. The all new exciting 5-day kids school holiday programme comes with a 2 hour fun group lesson each day including rental equipment and a kids meal voucher-a great way to learn new snow sport skills in a fun and active environment. To book in your child, call Snowplanet on 09 4270044ext 725 or email schools@snowplanet.co.nz

Thur 25 Sept	Tomorrow Yr 3 cross country 9.15am Yr 4 cross country 1.00 pm
Mon 26 Sept	Last day Term Three. School finishes at 1.30pm The Ponga Road bus departs at 1.30pm also
Mon 13 Oct	First day of Term Four
Mon 20 th Oct	Year Six students leave for 3 day outdoor education camp at Ararimu. 7.30 pm P.T.A Meeting. All parents welcome.
Wed 5 th Nov	Junior School cross country Yr 7/8 Counties North athletics field day at Massey Park

Quiz: A Numeracy puzzle. If you have \$1,000,000 and give half of it away today, half of the next tomorrow and half of that remaining the day after and keep going like that, how long will it be before all of the money has been given away?

Quote: 'It is easier to build boys than to mend men' anonymous

Best Wishes

Murray Wratt
Principal

Answer to Quiz: theoretically never, because by halving, you never reach zero

OPAHEKE SCHOOL

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Newsletter No 15/08

“The Opaheke Way”

Dear Parents,

Greetings to all of you as we come to the final week of Term Three. Last Monday was the equinox; the time of equal days and equal nights.

Staff Changes: At the end of this term there will be two changes of staff.

- Mrs Maureen Selkirk will be leaving teaching to begin a new business venture. Mrs Selkirk has been a valued and valuable class teacher who has brought expertise in Numeracy to our school and we wish Maureen all the best in her new ‘career’
- Miss Ameshia Patel returns to work in Room 17 after one term’s leave. Miss Patel is working alongside Mrs Selkirk this week getting to know the children, their work routines and programmes.
- Mrs Kerry Gore leaves the School at the end of this term to take up a senior teacher’s position at Snells Beach School from the start of next term. Mrs Gore has been a member of staff for 10 years and has played a significant part in the structure and programmes for our Year Eight classes. We wish Kerry all the best and thank her for her dedication, expertise and leadership in the Yr 8 area of the School.
- Miss Jane Hamlin will be teaching the Year Eight class during Term Four. Miss Hamlin has worked with Mrs Cantley at Buckland School and is returning from doing her O.E in Europe. We welcome her to our School. Miss Hamlin will be working with Mrs Gore during the coming holidays to get to know about programmes, work and students.

End of Term: School will finish for Term 3 this Friday 26th at 1.30pm, the Ponga Road bus will leave at this time on this day.

Bookweek: This week is Bookweek for our students. Although every week is a time for reading, Miss Williams and the library staff have set up some fun activities centred around the library and books for enjoyment and for

information. Today is an opportunity to come dressed as a favourite book character and there is a session with a storyteller as well.

Helping your Child as a Reader

Provide encouragement

Accept your child's efforts. Try to be relaxed. Stop the reading time calmly if you feel yourself becoming frustrated. Read to your child instead. Talk about the story together to help your child to gain interest and to get more meaning from the story.

Provide praise: When the child reads well, when the child corrects himself after making a mistake, when the child reads a word correctly after you have provided help. To do this – wait! Give the child a chance to think about the word and the meaning of the story before you try to help or correct. If the mistake does not make sense prompt with clues about the meaning of the story-ask a question. If the mistake does make sense prompt with clues about the way the word looks – look at the beginning, ending, at a part in the word. If the child says nothing ask the child to go back to the beginning of the sentence and try again. If the word is not correct after 2 prompts say 'the word is...'

Celebrating Other Successes:

Congratulations to the following students: New South Wales Mathematics:

Distinction Awards, 90-99%; Aseem Anand, Finn Taylor Yr8, Ronnie Shaddick Yr 6

Credit, 70-89% : AnniYang Yr 8, Hritika Ghaiee, Neihana Hamilton, Perrin Hastings Yr 7, Sophia Tadi Yr 6, Chhavi Breja, Navrajdeep Sandhu, Kieron Williams Yr 5, Anqi Yang Yr 4

Duathlon held at Massey Park on Saturday week in aid of children with cancer: 8 yr old girls 3rd Rachel Biggelaar, 9 yr old girls 1st Jade Tulp 11 yr old girls 1st Madison Lunny, 2nd Natasha Tulp, 3rd Dania Smiley 12 yr Boys 3rd Finn Taylor, 12/13 Yr old girls: 2nd Courtney France, 3rd Lauren Hare

Counties Zone Cross Country at Paparimu School: Yr 7 girls team 1st Natasha Tulp, Madison Lunny, Maia Jean Watene Yr 8 girls team 2nd Destiny Grace, Tayler Mager Yr 8 Boys team 1st Finn Taylor

Gymnastics: James Natrass and Alan Robinson were in Y 8 boys Counties gymnastics team that was placed 3rd in Auckland Interzone championship.

Netball: Opaheke Magic Netball Team won the Intermediate Grade H Trophy and the trophy for the most goals scored in their grade.

“Opaheke’s Got Talent” afternoon last Friday: Juniors 1st Timothy Fern 2nd Room 10 dancers, Seniors: 1st Anni Yang and Jacob Moselin-Sloog, 2nd Darby Fullerton

Teacher only day : Tuesday 28th October, the day following Labour Day, will be a teacher only day. This time will be used for an intensive inservice day for teachers to learn more about the new New Zealand curriculum. The Board selected this day because they believe that this will cause least inconvenience for families and is often a time when families enjoy a brief holiday away.

Numeracy Strategies: Some parents have expressed a view that they are uncertain as to how to help their child when she/he encounters difficulty in completing Mathematics homework, Parents if in doubt, contact your child's class teacher and the teacher will be pleased to help by explaining the strategy and the most useful way of solving a mathematics problem, equation or algorithm.

General Election The School Hall will be used as a polling booth for the general election which will be held on Saturday 8th Nov.

School 40th Anniversary: A reminder to our families that this will be held Saturday 22nd November. Enrolment forms can either be downloaded on line, or requested from the school office.

P.T.A News

- Next meeting 20th October, 7.30 pm
- Boxes of fresh vegetables will be available through the PTA early in Term Four. These will be priced at a competitive rate.
- Auction evening to be held Friday evening 21st November in the hall. This was a really good enjoyable occasion last year and the PTA are looking for strong support from the Opaheke community again. If you can help please contact Geraldine Ph 2981174 or email geraldine.braks@xtra.co.nz

School Hats: From the Beginning of Term 4 children will be required to wear School Sunhats. These are available for purchase from the school office at \$10 for a plain hat and \$15.50 with embroidered school logo.