

Opaheke School

Established 1968

Sharing, Caring,
Learning and Achieving

PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We are a Microsoft Showcase School



Kia ora koutou katoa, talofa lava, bula vinaka, malo e lelei, kia orana, namaste, malo ni, asalaamu alaikum, and warm greetings to you all.



Sportsmanship

I received an email from a parent praising our Year 8 boys football team after they competed at last week's North Counties Sports day. They showed great sportsmanship, putting the pain of a narrow 1 point defeat aside to quickly regroup ready to shake hands with their opposition who were still celebrating. What must also be noted was the way they played. They gave it their full effort right up until the final whistle despite the onset of injuries and fatigue in the sweltering heat. Mrs Smit and I made a special

mention of their efforts at assembly and presented them with certificates. I then asked the boys, "How would you have acted if you had won rather than lost? Would you respond differently?". Colby said they still would have lined up to shake their opponents hands. Good response I thought. Perhaps, this simple sporting act is being forgotten. Often you turn on the television to see sports teams rushing onto the field at the end of the game, jumping on each other, hugging, and high fiving with no regard for the opposition. I recall the actions of Dan Carter and Keven Mealamu after the final whistle blew on the 2015 Rugby World Cup final. They quickly removed themselves from the on field celebrations to go over and acknowledge their opponents who were obviously hurting. There is always plenty of time to celebrate, but first pay respect to your opponents, for without them there wouldn't be a match. Well done Year 8 boys.

Attendance

We have been closely monitoring attendance. Regular attendance is 90% and above. Unfortunately, we only have 63% of our students attending regularly (90% upwards). To get 90+ attendance, a child should miss **NO MORE THAN FOUR DAYS OF SCHOOL** in a term. When you think that a cold or some other illness can take up that number of days, it means that there isn't a lot of 'give' for extra days away. At the same time, it is possible that without sickness a child could achieve 100% attendance.



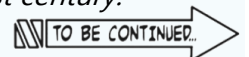
We also have a further 20% of our students sitting in the 80-90% attendance bracket and with a few more days in the bank, they will join the top group. Finally, I will be making contact with selected families in the next fortnight to see how we can work together to support better attendance.

Revisioning

The board and senior leadership team are motivated to start a revisioning process for our school. Each school in Aotearoa has a mission and vision statement that is at the foundation of what they aim to achieve. Have a read of our current mission and vision statements below:

Mission Statement: *Sharing, caring, learning and achieving.*

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



CONTACT US

Tasman Drive
Papakura 2113
Phone (09) 298 5410

office@opaheke.school.nz
www.opaheke.school.nz

We look forward to seeing your child at school by 8.25am ready to learn each day.
School finishes for all students at 2.30pm.



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If you were to blank out our school logo and name at the top of this newsletter you could be forgiven for thinking we could be any school in New Zealand. As a matter of fact, you couldn't be certain those statements were linked to a school in Aotearoa let alone one that is situated in Papakura. So with your help, we want to develop a new mission and vision that truly reflects the uniqueness of Opaheke School and its community. This process may take time as we aim to capture as much voice as we possibly can. This means parents, students, staff, and even wider community voice.

Below is an example of a long standing mission statement from a school situated in the Waikato. There is immense power within these kupu (words). Having the mission statement in Te Reo Maori and the translation in English is deliberate here too.

He taonga o tatou tamariki *Where children's hopes and dreams are treasured.*

Have a look at this vision below. This is from a school in Tamaki Makaurau. A simple yet beautiful vision which was the culmination of extensive mahi.

We Belong *Ka whai turangawaewae tātou*

We Grow *Ka tipu tātou*

We Contribute *Ka tākoha tātou*

Anyhow, that is food for thought. If that gets you excited, then please hold onto those thoughts and feelings because we will be looking to capture them very soon.

Education Review Office

We had a visit from the Education Review Office (ERO) on the 15th of March. Michelle McCarty (lead reviewer) and Paul Pirihi (leadership partner) spent the day meeting staff, board, and students. They were impressed with the learning and teaching capability within our school and will be back in Week 10 for another visit to explore further elements of our school.

Noho ora mai,
Jade Tawhiti.



CONTACT US

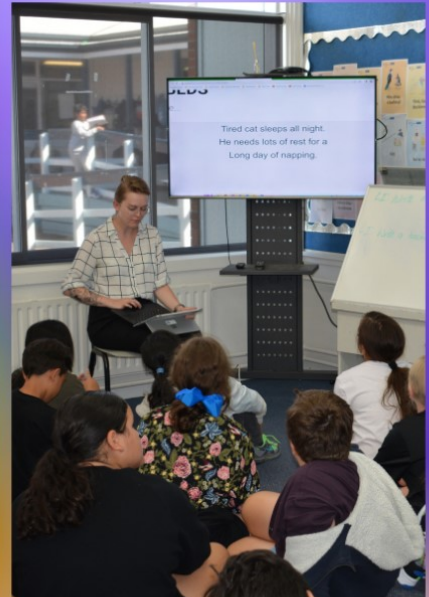
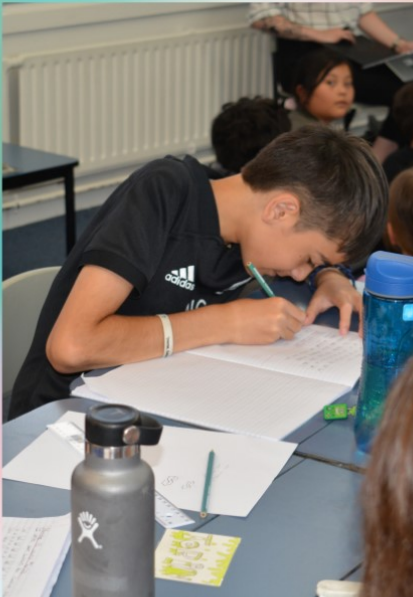
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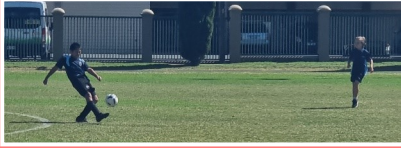


LEARNING AT ŌPAHEKE



Sport

North Counties Touch and Football



On Tuesday 14th March our Year 5-8 students participated in the North Counties Touch and Football Tournament held at the Bruce Pulman Park and McLennan Park.



Our Year 5/6 boys and Year 8 boys teams both came forth in Football.

The Year 7 Boys came 1st and will represent North Counties at the Counties Zone Football next week.



The Year 8 girls came 1st and will represent North Counties at the Counties Zone Girls Football tournament early in term 2.

Taylor Norgrove from Snap Fitness took the year 5/6 touch students through warm up exercises before their touch games. They also donated free water bottles and water to our lucky students.

Our boys team played 4 games - 1 win, 1 draw and 2 losses.

The girls played 3 games but lost all of them.



Counties Zone Swimming

Congratulations to our Year 7 and 8 students who went on to represent our school at the Counties Zone Swimming Sports on Friday 10th March. They all did extremely well in their events.

Results

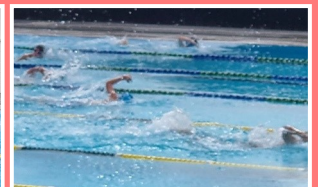
Kade - 4th Y7 100m Freestyle, 5th Y7 Backstroke final

Tyreece - 5th 50m Backstroke

Logan - 7th Y8 Backstroke final

Braith - 7th Y8 Breaststroke

Lizzie, Charlotte, Caja and Mia - 2nd Y8 girls Freestyle relay



Farewell to Mrs Liddle



Today we say haere ra to our Learning Support Teacher, Mrs Jen Liddle. Jen has been with us since September 2019 and has worked with numerous tamariki during that time. She is very knowledgeable and adaptable and has been a real asset to our school. Our children tell us she is kind and patient and always finds a way to help us.

Did you know that she has worked in all of our different syndicates! We are sad to see Jen go but wish her all the very best on her next adventure.

We will miss you, Mrs Liddle.

Lunchtime Craft Club

Our Makerspace is a busy and fun place when Craft Club is on! Students in years 3-6 take part in a variety of activities to unleash their creativity, such as origami bookmarks, and decorating paper fish for a display for Sea Week. They have pride in their creations and enjoy trying new techniques and crafts.



Library Notice

Nau mai, haere mai

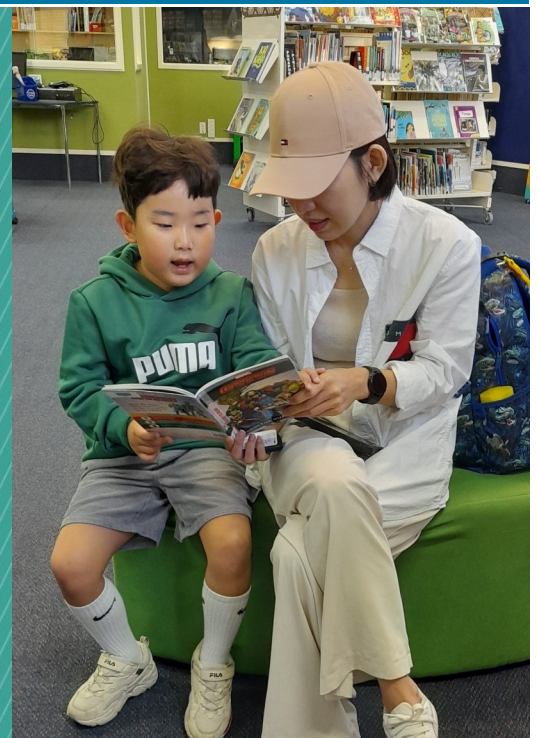
Welcome!

We would like to invite Whānau to our library on Monday mornings.

This is a chance to read and enjoy a story together from our wide range of books before school starts.



MONDAYS: 8.00 - 08.20 AM



Ruma Tahī

Room One

Room One have been familiarising themselves with the new Aotearoa New Zealand Histories curriculum and learning about The New Zealand Wars in the 19th century.

We have focused on the North Island wars, involving the Mana of Tangawhenua (Land Wars) of the North, Waikato, and Parihaka in Taranaki.

We have learned many kupu hou or new vocabulary. Here are some below.

Tangata whenua – people of the land

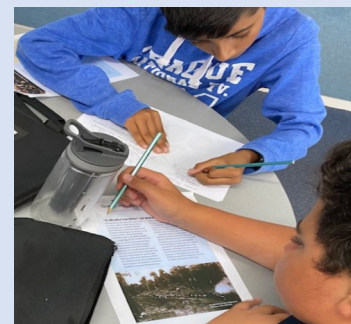
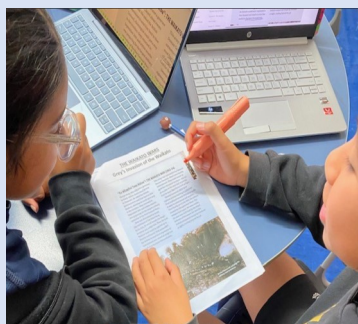
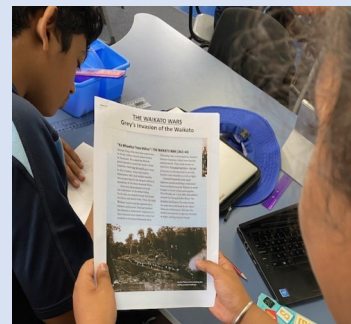
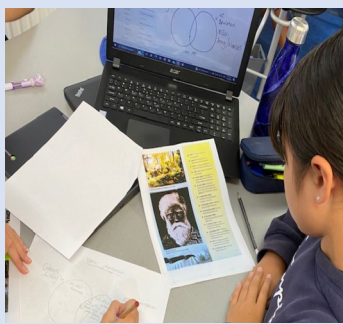
Te Tiriti o Waitangi – The Treaty of Waitangi

Kaitiakitanga – guardianship, stewardship, trusteeship

Whenua – land

Tikanga māori - Māori customary practices or behaviours

Tino rangatiratanga – political control by Māori people over Māori affairs



Above are some photos of Ruma Tahī students collaborating together to research and read about Grey's Invasion of the Waikato and how the Māori warriors fought back whilst also going back home in between the fighting to look after their whānau.

Miss Pedersen's Rally Car

Miss Pedersen, one of our Year 8 teacher's, is a rally car driver. She bought her car into school last week so we could view it. We quizzed Miss Pedersen about some of the following and here is what she had to say.

How fast can this rally car go?

200km/hour is the highest legal limit we can go but it can go faster.

Where do you drive the car? On a track or off-road?

This car can be driven on a sealed track, but we generally drive it off-road on gravel roads.

The roads are closed to the public during these races.

How long have you been racing?

I've been racing for approximately two decades.



Celebrating!

STAR Award Recipients

Our term one focus is 'Teamwork'.

Well done to all our students who received awards over the last two weeks.

Great work team!



Term 1 Week 7



Term 1 Week 8

Gold Award Mathletes

Congratulations to Zarah and Anraj R5, Evan, Jazleen and Lennon R6, Muhammad R7, Tejas R25, Keena R26 who have attained their gold award certificates for Mathletics over the last two weeks. It takes 20 weeks of consistent effort to achieve one of these awards. So much hard work!



Bake Sale Fundraiser



Cyclone Gabrielle was a severe tropical cyclone that devastated the North Island of New Zealand and affected parts of Vanuatu and Australia in February 2023. Most parts of the North island were damaged, like Pakowhai area. People lost everything, houses, animals, and even loved ones. So as a class we decided that we could help them recover from this severe loss as well as help Miss Pedersen's relatives. Later we decided that we could run a bake sale for them and give everything we make to help them recover from their loss. On the 14th and 15th of March we had baking brought in the morning and we sold it in the middle block of the 15th. My job was selling the baking to the entire school starting from the juniors all the way to the seniors. It was chaotic but in the end we were given one day off school (because of strike day) as a reward and we raised **\$1,601.50** and donated it all to the Pakowhai community.

By Noor



SELF REGULATOR



THINKER



INNOVATOR



COLLABORATOR



CHALLENGE TAKER

PTA Notices



Easter Raffle

The PTA are running a fundraiser Easter Raffle and each child has been given a book of 10 tickets to sell. We would greatly appreciate help selling the tickets.

- Tickets are \$2.00 each.
- One book of 10 tickets is \$20
- There are 6 x Easter hampers to be won
- All ticket books and money need to be returned to your child's teacher no later than Friday 31st March 2023
- Raffle will be drawn on Monday 3rd April at assembly. Winners will be notified and hampers picked up from the school office.
- Funds raised will go towards the school. The more tickets that are sold means more funds raised for our tamariki and their learning.
- If you require more books to sell please see the amazing ladies in the office.

On behalf of the PTA, we thank you for taking part in the Easter raffle. Thank you for helping us help the school.

Please continue to donate. The more chocolates we receive the more Easter hampers we can give away and make Easter extra special.

Thank you, PTA.



Juicies

Thank you to everyone who supported our Juicies fundraiser on the 9th March. It turned out to be the perfect day for a nice frozen cold drink and an early finish from school before the Goal Setting Meetings that afternoon. The PTA sold over 200 juicies.





NEW TIMES

OUR ŌPAHEKE PTA INVITES YOU TO
THE END OF TERM

Ōpaheke School Disco!

FOOD! GOOD MUSIC!
ADMISSION \$2

WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL, 2023

YEARS 1 - 2 5:00PM TILL 5:45PM
YEARS 3 - 4 6:00PM TILL 6:45PM
YEARS 5 - 8 7:00PM TILL 8:00PM

ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL HALL



CHALLENGE TAKER



COLLABORATOR



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THINKER



SELF REGULATOR

IMPORTANT DATES

24 Mar	Kiwi Competition entries due
28 Mar	Y7/8 North Counties Rugby Trials
31 Mar	Easter raffle tickets due back
3 Apr	Easter raffle drawn
5 Apr	PTA Disco
6 Apr	Last day of Term 1 - finish 2.30pm
24 Apr	Teacher Only Day
25 Apr	ANZAC Day
26 Apr	First day of Term 2 - start 8.25am
26 Apr	Field of Remembrance 9.30am

TERM DATES FOR 2023

Term 1 - Wednesday 1 Feb to Thursday 6 Apr
 Term 2 - Monday 24 Apr (TOD) to Friday 30 June
 Term 3 - Monday 17 July to Friday 22 Sept
 Term 4 - Monday 9 Oct to Friday 15 Dec

TEACHER ONLY DAYS

Term 2 - Monday 24 Apr

STAR AWARDS

Term 1 - Teamwork

Room	Week 7	Week 8
R1	Benjamin	Angi
R2	Joe	Skylah
R3	Caleb	Lucas
R4	Devam	Anaru
R5	Chloe	Diamond
R6	Ishnoor	Lucas
R7	Ariyana	Ruth
R8		Amelia
R9	Declan	Kaydence
R10	Akilan	Tyson
R11	Ajo	Nishav
R12	Mackenzie	Harsirat
R15	Yusuf	Zara
R21	Hope	Carol
R22	Manaia	Taylor
R23	Lucas	Ruhi
R24	Libby	Leo
R25	Ivory	JJ
R26	Lily	Athena
Junior Hub	Kiaan	Ethan
Kanuka	Hayden	Genevieve
Manuka	Hibah	Melanie

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR
TEACHER ONLY DAY
 Monday 24 April

A NEW JOURNEY BEGINS!



DOWNLOAD OUR SKOOL LOOP APP TO KEEP TRACK OF ALL SCHOOL NEWS AND IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2023.

