

Sharing, Caring,  
Learning and Achieving

# Opaheke School

Established 1968

## 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.

### Devices

Thank you to those families who responded to our call for more digital devices. We have already noticed the increase in home brought devices and this has had an immediate impact on classroom programmes in our Years 4-8 classes. I will do another push for these devices at a later stage, but if you missed my plea for more devices, please have a read of the last newsletter where I provide an explanation.

**THANK YOU!**

### Attendance

We have had a few start up niggles with children yet to settle back into school routines. The stop-start with flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle hasn't helped, as we have only had two full weeks back at school. So we are trying to settle children as quickly as possible into school mode. A hurdle we have encountered is patchy attendance, with a number of children not yet having a full week at school. It makes this settling process that little bit harder. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, regular attendance makes everything better. Kids settle and learn school routines faster.

### Dinner talk

I had the pleasure of spending the morning teaching in Room 6 last week. The tamariki were puzzled. "But you're the principal, do you know how to teach?", was one gem I overheard from a child. Anyhow, we started the day of learning with a bit of geography and meteorology as we explored why Tairāwhiti and the Hawkes Bay were so badly impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle. What blew me away was how much 'prior knowledge' the children had. The stuff they already knew. What was even more exciting was when I probed children for the source of their information, a number alluded to the fact that they learnt it at home. Evan, told me that he talks to his dad about this sort of stuff. I could have let the children run the entire session, such was the depth of knowledge they had in the area. But I decided to regain control of the lesson, just to assure them that I could in fact teach.

### So what am I trying to say here?

You may have heard the term, "parents are the first teachers" and "home is the first place of learning". These are facts. So do not discount the importance of korero (discussion) at home. It is incredibly valuable. Whether it is just general knowledge around the dinner table, perhaps something topical. Keep dialogue alive at home, whether your kids are active in the conversation or they just tune in as an interested participant, it doesn't really matter. When a child learns something at home, it is another addition to their kete, and helps them make faster connections when learning here at school.



### Tasman drive

There have been a few erratic traffic decisions being made at morning drop off and afterschool pickup on Tasman Drive. Parking on yellow lines and running across the road to name a few. The sort of things that the staff and I don't particularly enjoy addressing. Please remember to be safe, do the right thing, and model safe road behaviour to the other children.

### 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.





## Learning at Ōpaheke



# 2023 Kiwi Competitions



Online competition  
for Primary, Intermediate  
and Secondary students

Who is it for?

Year 5/6 students working at level 3.

Year 7/8 students working at level 4.

See the letter that was sent out in February.

Return your forms to the office by:  
Friday 24 March 2023



Kiwi Science  
Competition



Kiwi Maths  
Competition



Kiwi English  
Competition

Designed by NZ teachers for Kiwi students based on NZ curriculum.

The competition will run during the last 3 weeks of Term 2 and  
the first week of Term 3.

Register Now!

by returning the form to the school office with payment.



SELF REGULATOR



THINKER



INNOVATOR



COLLABORATOR



CHALLENGE TAKER

## 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 5



Term 1 Week 6

### Gold Award Mathletes

Congratulations to Vivaan R1, Gurnoor R4, Reshu R24 and Jaiysheil R26 who have attained their gold award certificates for Mathletics over the last few weeks. It takes 20 weeks of consistent effort to achieve one of these awards. So much hard work!



## Bake Sale Fundraiser



On the 15<sup>th</sup> of March, Kanuka are holding a bake sale so we can raise money to donate to the Hawkes Bay schools that were affected by Cyclone Gabrielle.

**We are asking for your support in the following ways:**

- Bring baking to school (if you can kindly bring baking, please bring it to the hall on the morning of either the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> of March).
- Bring money to school on the 15<sup>th</sup> March to buy some yummy baking.

### CYCLONE FUNDRAISER

#### *Bake Sale*

Kanuka are running a bake sale to raise money to support people in Hawkes Bay who have lost houses, personal items and pets.



Opaheke School Hall



Friday March 15th

Please support us by sending baking to the school hall on the 14th and 15th March, in the morning.



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## PTA Notices

### PTA MEETING / AGM

**15 March 2023**

7.30pm - Ōpaheke School Staffroom

All Welcome (including children)



We would love to see you at our next Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meeting. The PTA is looking for new members and school whānau to join our great team of parents. Bring your ideas and come to make some new friends.

As this is our AGM we are looking for new office holders to be elected as well as deciding on our fundraisers for the year ahead. The more voices we have, the more ideas we have for fundraisers and the more help will enable us to maximise the opportunities and benefits for all our children/tamariki.

## Easter Raffle Donations Wanted

Raffle drawn on Monday 3rd April 2023

It's that time of year, the Ōpaheke School PTA are running their annual easter raffle and would greatly appreciate easter egg/chocolate donations to be brought to the school office between now and Wednesday 29th March.

Raffle tickets will be coming soon.



### Juicies on Sale!

Available Thursday 9th March from 12 noon (at the end of school) outside the staffroom (by the photo tree). Flavours

available are:

- Lemonade
- Berry
- Tropical



While stocks last!

**Cost - \$2 each**

Please bring your money on the day for the Juicies. Small change/coins appreciated thank you.

Funds raised will go towards donations for school events and programmes.

## Board Notices

### Goal Setting Meetings

**THURSDAY  
MARCH 9  
1.00-4.15 PM**

**BOOK  
NOW**

To book your meeting go to  
**[www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code)**  
and enter code : **yr588**

Or call our office team  
to book in with them.

**Early school finish time of 12.00pm**



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## IMPORTANT DATES

|        |                                      |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| 9 Mar  | 12 noon School Finish                |
| 9 Mar  | PTA - Juicies for sale               |
| 9 Mar  | Goal Setting Meetings from 1pm       |
| 14 Mar | Y5-8 NC Football and Touch           |
| 15 Mar | Bake Sale                            |
| 15 Mar | PTA AGM / Meeting 7.30pm             |
| 17 Mar | Y5/6 Massey Park - Swim for Survival |
| 21 Mar | Board Meeting 7.10pm                 |

### 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 5    | Week 6   |
|------------|-----------|----------|
| R1         | Kristile  | Tyreece  |
| R2         | Ruby      | John     |
| R3         | Darien    | Nina     |
| R4         | Blake     | Elijah   |
| R5         | Zarah     | Rahul    |
| R6         | Aria      | Calais   |
| R7         | Kyle      | Caleb    |
| R8         | Jace      | Ollie    |
| R9         | AJ        |          |
| R10        | Ella      | Yashwin  |
| R11        | Izayah    | Taylah   |
| R12        | Samreen   | Dylan    |
| R15        | Sonja     | Amari    |
| R21        | Lily      | Reysheil |
| R22        | Marlee    | Gurmukh  |
| R23        | Adrishia  | Edison   |
| R24        | Annie     | Eni      |
| R25        | Hazen     |          |
| R26        | Keena     | Ngahuia  |
| Junior Hub | Da-in     | Gretel   |
| Kanuka     | Charlotte | Braith   |
| Manuka     | Mason     | Elisha   |

