

# Opaheke School

Sharing, Caring,  
Learning and Achieving

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.

Nǐ hǎo

The final week of the term is here. Everybody has worked tremendously hard, and the term break affords us the chance to reflect, celebrate and recharge the batteries.

There are lots of things to celebrate this term.

- Our attendance is on the up with a recent daily average of 90%, and with warmer weather approaching and less illness it is only going to improve.
- Student learning is flying.
- Our roll is growing. We expect to be around 650 pupils by the end of the year.

It is with mixed emotions that I announce the departure of Amesha Patel. Miss Patel has accepted the position of deputy principal at Waiau Pa School starting next term. It is an exciting career opportunity for Amesha, and we have no doubt that she will make a positive difference there. We are sad though, because Amesha has given much to our school, our staff and students. She has been relentless in her mahi and has a massive heart for the kids. Aroha nui, Amesha.

Each Monday morning we have PTA mums and dads in our staffroom working away on the Family Funfest and other fundraising activities. They have coffee, baked treats and share some laughs and light hearted chat while getting stuck into their work. It is really nice to see and we appreciate the work they are putting into their fundraising events, which ultimately goes back into our kids education. If you ever thought the PTA and the work associated with the PTA was a little daunting, think again. They are a great bunch of parents, the vibe is relaxed, and I am sure they will welcome you in with open arms. The PTA is not **just** about fundraising, it is also about helping bring our community together.

Finally, a special thank you to our parents and extended whānau who have supported us in various ways this term. Kapa haka, launchpad, transport, coaching, and road patrol. You have helped lighten the load for our staff so thanks. Thanks also to the parents who turn up to support our events such as the recent maths morning and cross country. Your presence lifts student motivation and makes our organisational efforts worth it.

Stay well and have a great break.

Mr Tawhiti



## Chinese Language Journeys



## Fijian Language Week (8-14 Oct 2023)



## 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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# LEARNING AT ŌPAHEKE



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# Treasure Hunters

## Papakura Library School Holiday programme 23 September - 8 October 2023



### Week 1 Treasure Hunters

**Monday 25 September 10am**

Come along and make yourself a treasure chest to keep all your treasures into!

**Tuesday 26 September 10am**

All treasure chests need treasure!

Today, we will be making gold coins to fill your treasure chest with.

**Wednesday 27 September 10am**

Dare to Dream! Create a poster expressing your vision of peace and win prizes.  
For up to 13 years of age.

**Thursday 28 September 10am**

All treasure chests need a goblet.

Design and create your very own goblet to store in your chest.

**Friday 29 September 10am**

No treasure chests are complete without a skull.

Come along and make one for yours.

### Week 1 Science and Tech

**Monday 25 September 2pm**

"What is STEM" workshop for ages 5-8 years

**Tuesday 26 September 2pm Part 1**

Scratch block coding. Please bring an iPad or similar. For ages 7-10 years

**Wednesday 27 September 2pm Part 2**

Scratch block coding. Please bring an iPad or similar. For ages 7-10 years

**Thursday 28 September 2pm Part 3**

Scratch block coding. Please bring an iPad or similar. For ages 7-10 year

**Friday 29 September 2pm Part 4**

Scratch block coding. Please bring an iPad or similar. For ages 7-10 years

### Week 2 Treasure Hunters

**Monday 2 October 10am**

Come along and make a piece of pottery for your treasure chest. Limited to 12 children ages 5-12

**Monday 2 October 1pm**

Come along and make a piece of pottery. Limited to 12 people ages 13 and over

**Tuesday 3 October 10am**

Drop by the library to craft a fun kaleidoscope!

**Wednesday 4 October 10am**

All treasure chests will have some form of sealife lurking within.

Transform seashells into a crab, turtle, or other sea creatures in today's crafting activity.

**Thursday 5 October 10am**

Our treasure chest is not complete without a treasure map or scroll!!

**Friday 6 October 10am**

Keep your treasure chest safe with a fierce dragon in today's activity!

### Week 2 Science and Tech

**Monday 2 October 2pm**

Cell biology. Learn about cells and how they function. For ages 7 to 15 years

## HATS REQUIRED FOR TERM 4

Our school hats  
are required  
during the  
summer terms



one and four. You can purchase  
these at the office for **\$14 each**.

## Wig Wednesday

Wow we had so many students and staff  
members with whacky hair styles and cool  
wigs on last Wednesday to support Wig  
Wednesday and raise money for the Child  
Cancer Foundation. We have raised of \$400.  
Good work everybody.





# Sport

## Year 3/4 Cross Country

Well done to all the Year 3 and 4 students who participated in the Ōpaheke School Cross Country on the 13th September. They practised our schools 'Challenge Taker' disposition by persevering all the way to the finish. Thank you to all the whānau who made it, to watch and cheer on our runners. Special congratulations to the top three students in each cohort as follows:

### Year 4 Boys

1st Luke W  
2nd Chozin G  
3rd Wainui H

### Year 4 Girls

1st Calais-Reign F  
2nd Payton M  
3rd Pranaya S

### Year 3 Boys

1st Lucas O  
2nd Max S  
3rd Austin H

### Year 3 Girls

1st Alexandria M  
2nd Gemma G  
3rd Summer S



## Year 1/2 Cross Country

Congratulations to our Year 1 and 2 students who participated in the Ōpaheke Junior School Cross Country yesterday.

Here are the top three placings from each group:

### 5 Year Old Girls JH/16:

1st - Neeana  
2nd - Isabella  
3rd - Willow

### 6 Year Old Girls Year 2

1st - Brylee  
2nd - Zoe  
3rd equal - Harsirat & Saatchi

### 5 Year Old Girls 15/10

1st - Elise  
2nd - Rolene  
3rd - Eliora

### 6 Year Old Boys Year 2

1st - Reuben  
2nd - Kippin  
3rd - Kavaan

### 5 Year Old Boys

1st - Ricki  
2nd - Vivaan  
3rd - Mason

### 7 Year Old Girls

1st - Lily E  
2nd - Aaliyah  
3rd - Ninke

### 6 Year Old Girls Year 1

1st - Skylar  
2nd - Sophia  
3rd - Missiah

### 7 Year Old Boys

1st - Quinn  
2nd - Jace  
3rd - Layton

### 6 Year Old Boys Year 1

1st - Dilawar  
2nd - Marshall  
3rd - Kiaan

# Cultural Exchange

We had a cultural exchange last week. Ākonga (learners), kaiako, and whānau from Mercury Bay Area School in Whitianga (Te Whanganui-a-hei) came to visit our kura.

It was an extra special visit, because Matua Marcus Oxenham (former Ōpaheke teacher) came to visit with his new school. We welcomed them with a mihi whakatau and our kapa haka roopu sang waiata for our manuhiri (visitors). We had a shared hakari (feast) and then all the tamariki joined together to sing 'Toia Mai'. Ngā mihi nui to Moko-iti and Albie for their leadership in the mihi whakatau, our ringawera in the kitchen, our whānau for bringing kai, and to Mahu Rawiri for offering his support with the welcome.

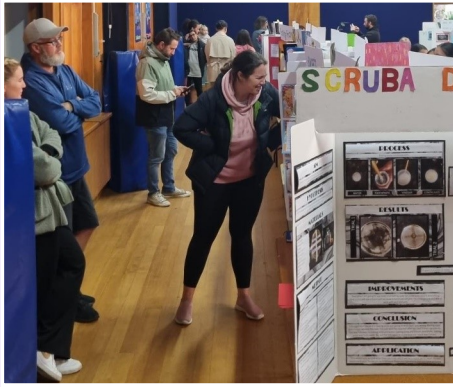
This exchange was all about whakawhanaungatanga - coming together and reconnecting. We have now formed a link with MBAS and we may visit their kura one day in the future.



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# Science Fair



Congratulations to our incredible Year 7/8 students for their outstanding achievements at the Science Fair! You have all put in the mahi, and the 'fair' is a tribute to your effort. What a great team to be a part of.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our parents who supported their children's work in school. This includes those late nights and the motivation to complete the experiments on time. We understand that this can be quite challenging. It was heartwarming to see so many of our families attend our open evening to view their child's work.

The students' hard work, combined with the invaluable support of parents and teachers, truly shone through. Now, let's applaud our well-deserving award recipients:

## Year 8

1st Place: Braith C, 2nd Place: Elizabeth C, 3rd Place: Charlotte T  
Highly Commended: Ruby E, Angi P and Tyla Y

## Year 7

1st Place: Ruby E, 2nd Place: Vivaan W, 3rd Place: Mason V  
Highly Commended: Hibah A, Vairaj M, William D and Kyle K

## Teacher Choice:

Rm1: John C, Vela S, Kristile H, Mila A

Rm2: Odin K, Skylah S, Sonay U

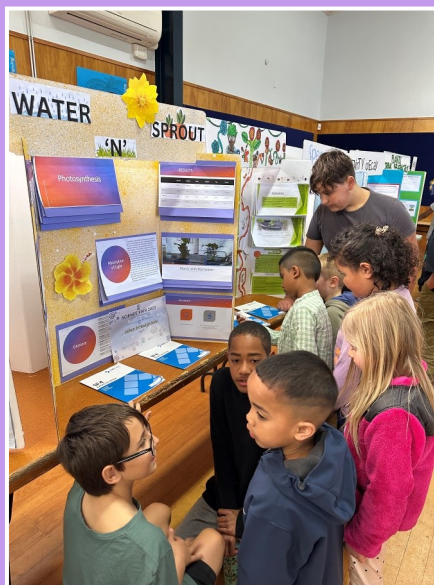
Rm3: Prav S, Alishba M, Vanni C, Louise K, Nina F, Maia H

Kanuka: Genevieve S, Nevaeh M, Moko-Iti K

Manuka: Gunreet S, Nikita K, Ava V and Wanessa H

A special thank you to our esteemed panel of judges who played a crucial role in evaluating the projects at our Science Fair! We were honored to have the Head of Science Department accompanied by a Science teacher from Rosehill College, Head of Science Department from Papakura High School and Jenn Jury, Board Presiding Member and Scientist from the University of Auckland.

Your expertise and dedication to advancing science education is truly commendable. Your contributions made this event even more meaningful! Thank you for being a part of our Science Fair journey!





## Celebrating!

### STAR Award Recipients

Our term three focus is 'Achieving Personal Best'.

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

Great work team!



Term 3 Week 8



Term 3 Week 9



**ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL**

*Sharing, Caring, Learning and Achieving*

## Out of Zone Enrolments 2024

Applications close 11 October  
Ballot drawn 18 October

Ōpaheke School Board is likely to have 13 x New Entrant places for out of zone enrolments for 2024.

The following priorities apply:

- |                 |                                         |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Priority One:   | Not applicable to Ōpaheke School        |
| Priority Two:   | Siblings of current students            |
| Priority Three: | Siblings of former students             |
| Priority Four:  | Child of a former student of the school |
| Priority Five:  | Children of Board employees or members  |
| Priority Six:   | Other applicants                        |

**AN APPLICATION FORM IS AVAILABLE ONLINE OR AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE FROM THE 30TH AUGUST 2023.**

## Author Visit

On the 14th September Rangitoto had an amazing visit from two authors from Storylines. Adele Broadbent and Amy Harrop shared their inspiration (ideas can come from anywhere!) and the importance of editing, editing, and editing your writing! We had an impromptu performance of Amy's Book 'Goat on a Trampoline' and some students dressed up to play the animal parts, and the pivotal role of a tree too!



Adele is a voracious reader and book reviewer and she shares her reviews of new books on her website: <https://whatbooknext.com/>. She took students through an easy process to write better stories.

Thank you to **Storylines Trust Te Whare Waituhi Tamariki o Aotearoa** for including Ōpaheke School on your Auckland tour, our tamariki are inspired to use some of the ideas that Adele and Amy shared today to develop their storywriting!



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## PTA Notices



**FREE ENTRY**

**FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER**  
4:00PM TO 7:00PM

**JOIN US FOR OUR 2023 FAMILY FUNFEST!**

**Ōpaheke School**  
Tasman/Short St gate entry

**FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**  
• MARKET • FOOD STALLS  
• RAFFLES • CAKE STALL • BOUNCY CASTLE & MORE  
CASH PAYMENTS, EFTPOS AVAILABLE

email: opahekecarnival@gmail.com for more information



**Ōpaheke School Disco**

OUR ŌPAHEKE PTA INVITES YOU TO THE END OF TERM DISCO!  
FOOD, DRINKS AND GOOD MUSIC!

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

**THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER**

ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL HALL

ADMISSION \$2 PER PERSON AT THE DOOR

CHILDREN ARE COLLECTED AT THE END OF TIME SLOT FROM SIDE DOORS

Ōpaheke PTA presents

# FAMILY FUNFEST 23

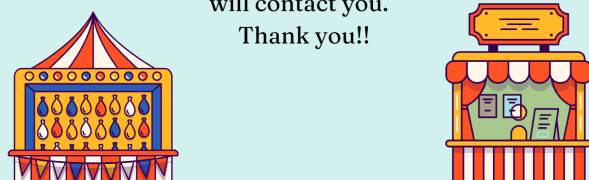
Friday 3rd November 4-7pm

Do you work for a business, or own a business that could support our family night to help raise funds for the school? Would you like to donate product of any type to our raffles? If so, we'd love to hear from you!

We're after products, vouchers, experiences etc to raffle on the night to our Ōpaheke whanau.

If you can help us out, please contact the PTA at: opahekecarnival@gmail.com or phone the office on: 298-5410 and someone will contact you.

Thank you!!



## Po Ako

Tālofa lava, mālō e lelei, bula vinaka, kia orāna, fakaalofa lahi atu, warm Pacific greetings



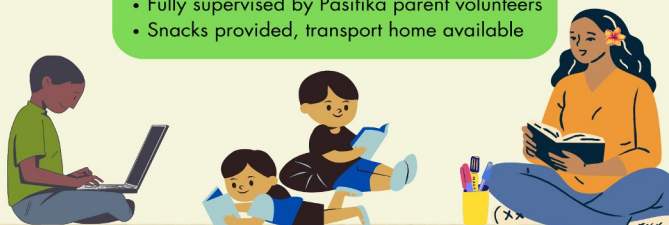
**PASIFIKA STUDENTS AT ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR**

# PO AKO

**A free community after-school learning & homework session every Wednesday, 2.30-3.45pm in the Maker Space**  
(next to the Ōpaheke School library)

**Starts in Term 4 (Wed 11th Oct)**

- For Ōpaheke Pasifika students of all ages
- Famili/fanau are welcome to come along
- Fully supervised by Pasifika parent volunteers
- Snacks provided, transport home available



**To register your child/children for Po Ako, please contact either of the Po Ako coordinators:**  
Moe Tu'ipulotu: 0211599543 Sandy Harman: 0274137690

Pasifika parents can also directly register their child(ren) for Po Ako at any time, by filling in this short Google form online:  
<https://forms.gle/nhbWp513eF5xJqvr8>



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## IMPORTANT DATES

|             |                                |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 17-23 Sep   | Chinese Language Week          |
| 19 Sep      | Y1/2 Cross Country             |
| 21 Sep      | Y5/6 Planting Trip             |
| 21 Sep      | PTA Disco                      |
| 22 Sep      | Last day of T3 - normal finish |
| 23 Sep      | Netball Prizegiving - 10.30am  |
| 8-14 Oct    | Fijian Language Week           |
| 9 Oct       | Term 4 starts - normal time    |
| 11 Oct      | Y6 Camp Parent Meeting 6pm     |
| 13 & 16 Oct | Y5 EOTC - Botanic Gardens      |

|           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| 14 Oct    | Election Day                 |
| 15 Oct    | Kapa Haka Wananga            |
| 17 Oct    | PTA Meeting 7pm              |
| 18 Oct    | Y5 EOTC - Totara Park        |
| 18-20 Oct | Y6 Camp                      |
| 20 Oct    | 5 EOTC - Big Foot Adventures |

### TERM DATES FOR 2023

Term 3 - Monday 17 July to Friday 22 Sept

Term 4 - Monday 9 Oct to Friday 15 Dec

## STAR AWARDS

### Term 3 - Achieving Personal Best

| Room       | Week 8         | Week 9      |
|------------|----------------|-------------|
| R1         | Ruby           | Monika      |
| R2         | Skylah         | Sonay       |
| R3         | Luca           | Heaven      |
| R4         | Briannah       | Laurel      |
| R5         | Hannah         | Sakinah     |
| R6         | Charlotte      | Lennon      |
| R7         | Heretaniwha    | Jasnoor     |
| R8         | Mika           | Haukawarua  |
| R9         | Georgia        | Quinn       |
| R10        | Rolene         | Gurbani     |
| R11        | Kippin         | Narika      |
| R12        | Maanveer       | Isaac       |
| R15        | Rylie          | Marshall    |
| R16        | Hawaiki        | Zarni       |
| R17        | Maryam         | Lily-Breeze |
| R21        | Callan         | Ishman      |
| R22        | Cyrus          | Grayson     |
| R23        | Aurelia        | Matileti    |
| R24        | Elvira         | Miguel      |
| R25        | Sonny          | Ruby        |
| R26        | Arav           |             |
| Junior Hub | Madison        |             |
| Kanuka     | Jonathan-Ryley | Amelia      |
| Manuka     | Trey           | Xander      |

## Paid Advertising



**If you looking  
for Quality  
Childcare in  
Papakura**

**Our Reggio Inspired  
centre is  
located at**

**429 Great South Road Papakura**

Morin is our centre manager; with a highly motivated  
ECE qualified teaching team.

We are open Monday to Friday 7 am to 6 pm.



**All About Children**  
Reggio Inspired  
EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

We are inviting our community/  
communities into our centre.

Please drop by on  
Monday to Friday between  
9.30am to 2pm

**Call Morin on Ph: 09 217 3165**



**Read our digital  
newsletter on our  
Skool Loop app**

**Simple free download:**

In Google Play & App Store  
search 'Skool Loop' &  
choose our school once installed.



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