



ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL



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.

Kia ora and greetings to all

We are now at the sharp end of the school year. Just over a week to go. Reports are being placed in envelopes, with a select few having received Principal Gold Star endorsement. I am almost at the point of finalising the lucky students who get to come and have lunch with me at McDonalds for maintaining 100% attendance for the entire year. I can promise you one thing, the group is much larger than last years.

I want to thank you for your speedy response and assistance with our emergency school closure last Friday. A main water pipe on Tasman Drive had burst and cut the water supply to our school along with many nearby residences. I liaised with the contractors working on the repair and they were a little hesitant to provide a clear repair timeframe. Hence the decision to close the school due to the health and safety issues. The timing of it helped because we did not have to evacuate the entire school, only a group of students who had arrived early. Water outages are not a common occurrence and are usually remediated quickly.

Prizegiving

We have our school prizegivings next Tuesday the 10th of December. Our **Junior Prizegiving** gets underway at 10.30am in the hall, and our **Senior Prizegiving** starts at 1.00pm also in the hall. We openly invite all friends and family to attend. Parents of prize recipients will be notified prior to the event. We would love to see you there.

Laptop from Santa?

Ōpaheke School is leading the way in terms of delivering learning using digital technologies. I continue to be impressed at how engaged our students are when using digital devices, and how efficient they are at navigating through their task work (working faster and learning faster). We are getting a little worried about the dwindling number of students bringing devices from home. Our current pool of school owned devices is stretched, and this is becoming more of an issue as our school population grows. Every child having a device to enable 1 to 1 access is really important, so they can access what THEY need, WHEN they need it. So, if possible, please think seriously about purchasing a device for your child which will support their learning from **Year 4** right through to **Year 8**. I understand it is a significant investment, but it is a valuable one in terms of the educational benefits for your child. Perhaps consider getting your extended family to contribute towards one for Christmas if your child is about to move into Year 4 or higher. For more information about what device to purchase please have a look at the information poster further on in the newsletter.

I will be sending a final principal's newsletter next week to give you some last minute reminders before you head off for the summer break. So please stay tuned for that.

Mr Tawhiti



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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2024 HUI WHAKANUI KI ŌPAHEKE TUES 10 DEC

Y1-4 JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING - 10.30AM

Y5-8 SENIOR PRIZEGIVING - 1.00PM

Our prizegiving celebrations are happening in the school hall, Whānau are welcome to attend. Parents and caregivers of students receiving an award will be advised via email prior to the prizegiving.



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DEVICE SPECIFICATIONS

MY MOBILE LEARNING @ ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL



ABOUT MY MOBILE LEARNING

At Ōpaheke School, students in Years 4 - 8 have the option of bringing their own device to use at school. The device will provide the opportunity for students to enhance their learning as part of the daily classroom programme.

WHEN CHOOSING A DEVICE PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING

HARDWARE

- Minimum 4GB RAM
- Minimum 128GB HDD or SSD
- Minimum 5 to 6 hours of battery life

SCREEN SIZE

- 10" to 15"
- 11" devices are easiest for our students to manage

SOFTWARE

- Windows 10 or 11
- Up-to-date antivirus
- Quick start up time, less than 3 minutes



WHY CAN'T WE CHOOSE A CHROMEBOOK?

Well actually, you can! A Chromebook will work in our environment, although it will have limited functionality in some of the apps we use everyday such as OneNote and Word. **We prefer Windows devices** because they provide us with more choices and functionality. We want our students to have more browser choices, more productivity programs, more types of file support and more hardware options.

Computers can be brought from home for students in years 4 - 8. These devices need to meet our minimum requirements. A school personal device user agreement must be completed and returned before devices can be brought to school- forms are available from the office. We work in partnership with our local Noel Leeming store. Please visit them with these requirements and they will help you find a great device.



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Learning at Ōpaheke



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Sport

Y5-8 Cricket Skills

The Year 5-8 students have been fortunate to have Jay from Northern Districts Cricket in school for the last three weeks of term running Cricket Smash skills sessions. Students are learning the fundamentals of throwing and catching alongside modified versions of cricket. These skills sessions aim to expose our tamariki to cricket with fun, fast-paced activities. It is always great to have specialist coaches in school to work with our classes!



Y3/4 Maungarei Athletics Day

On Wednesday 26th November, Team Maungarei held their Annual Athletics Sports Day. What an exciting day it was for our Year 3-4 students at the Athletics Day! The sun was shining, and the energy was high.

The event was filled with excitement, outstanding performances, and a wonderful sense of community. From the exhilarating sprints to the impressive high jumps, every participant gave their best and showed great sportsmanship.

A huge shoutout to the students who cheered others on. You all showed what it means to be great spectators. It was wonderful to see everyone coming together to celebrate each other's efforts and achievements.

To our parents, a big thank you to all of you who came out to support your kids on Athletics Day.



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Celebrating!

STAR Award Recipients

Our term four focus is 'Striving for Excellence'.

Well done to all our students who received awards at the last two assemblies.

Great work team!



Term 4 Week 6

Carols in the Park



Our School choir group performed at Carols in the Park on 29th November. It was a fantastic night with a great community atmosphere. Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who made participation for their child possible and those who came to watch and support.



Hello Summer

Download our Skool Loop app today to keep up to date with school information. Notices, newsletters, absentee notifications and much more!

Simple free download
Scan the QR code or in Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

Available on the App Store

Available on Google play

THE SKOOL LOOP APP



ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL

Sharing, Caring, Learning and Achieving

BACK TO SCHOOL 2025

First Day of School
Tues
4th February
8.25am start

Waitangi Day
Thurs 6th Feb
(school closed)

Kaiako Kōrero

We have a Kaiako Kōrero on the 3rd February 2025 from 1.00pm until 2.30pm. This is when you and your child are able to pop in and meet their new teacher before the start of the school year.
(Next years class will be emailed out during the week of 16th December 2024.)

Contact: office@opaheke.school.nz
(09) 298 5410
www.opaheke.school.nz



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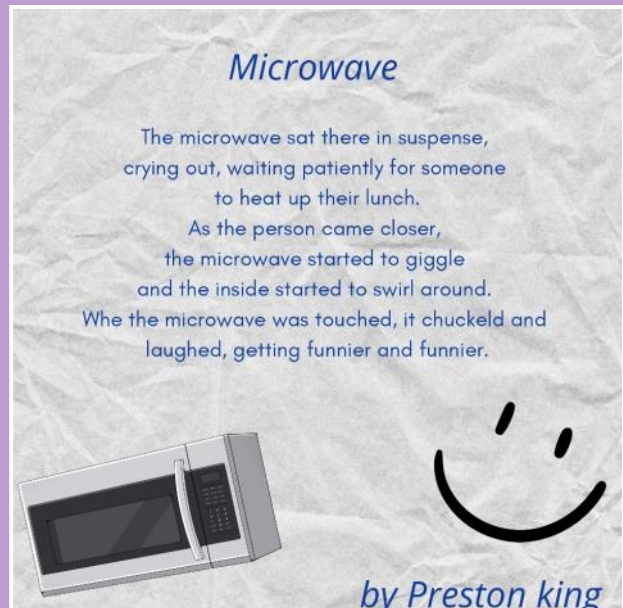
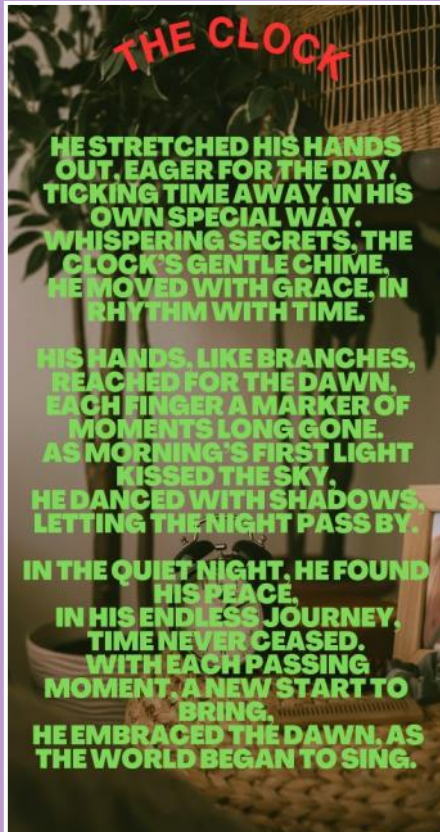
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Kānuka's Poems

Kānuka have been writing some amazing poems recently, here are some samples.



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IMPORTANT DATES

5 Dec	Peer Mediator Celebration
6 Dec	Service Assembly
6 Dec	Y3/4 CT Whānau Morning
9 Dec	Papakura High Orientation Day
9 Dec	Board Meeting 7pm
10 Dec	Junior and Senior Prizegivings
11 Dec	Student Librarian Celebration
12 Dec	Y8 Last Day - 2.30pm finish
12 Dec	Y8 Graduation - 6pm
13 Dec	Y1-7 Last Day - 12pm finish

TERM DATES 2025

Term 1, 2025	- Tuesday 4 Feb to Friday 11 Apr
Term 2, 2025	- Monday 28 Apr to Friday 27 Jun
Term 3, 2025	- Monday 14 Jul to Friday 19 Sep
Term 4, 2025	- Monday 6 Oct to Wednesday 17 Dec

STAR AWARDS

Term 4 - Striving for Excellence

Room	Week 6	Week 7
R1		
R2	Elijah	
R3	Jonah	
R4		
R5	Lucas	
R6	Luke	
R7	Michael	
R8	Emaan	
R9	Sebastian	
R10	Rolene	
R11	Zara	
R12	Japman	
R15	Iloisa	
R16	Hannah	
R17	Milica	
R18	Wiremu	
R21	Samara	
R22	Kenzou	
R23		
R24	Leeh-Brohyn	
R25	Nora	
R26	Prizleen	
Junior Hub	Elljae	
Kōwhai	Levi	
Kānuka	Jasnoor	
Mānuka	Trey	
Kauri		

No Awards Assembly

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