



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.

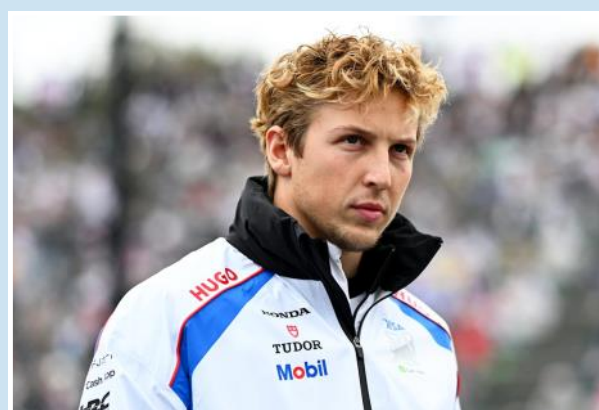
Greetings to our families and friends.

Last week of the term, and a positive term it has been. The introduction of new staff, fresh property changes, improvements in attendance and children quickly settling back into learning have been the highlights of the term.

Looking ahead to term 2. I would love to see our attendance continue to improve. Sharpening up on late morning arrivals and super early or super late afternoon pickups, will be something I may have to tackle next term if it doesn't improve. I think even if you were to spread my message, or if you are struggling in this regard just reach out

to the office and let us know, we may be able to help or at the very least understand.

I shared a message at last week's assembly. Projected on the big screen were images of Kiwi Formula 1 driver Liam Lawson. He has been a hot topic in the media, having been relegated from the starting lineup of Team Red Bull after only 2 races. I talked to the kids about the concept of 'fairness'. There was a lot of debate whether Lawson's treatment was 'fair' or 'unfair'. While we don't know what happens in the world of Formula 1 racing, we can all understand what being treated 'unfairly' whether intentional or unintentional feels like. I reminded kids that sometimes things are not fair, and not to sulk or get angry, but to keep your chin up and keep being the best you can be. I know that Liam Lawson, won't be sulking, he will be back out on that race track giving his all.



As always thank you for your support this term. We look forward to term 2 and seeing our tamariki continue to soar in their learning. See you all back on the 28th of April.

Mr Tawhiti.

CONTACT US

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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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Sport

Y7/8 North Counties Football Tournament

On Thursday the 3rd of April the North Counties Football Tournament was held at McLennan Park in Papakura. Despite rain throughout the day, the boys' team and the girls' team had a great day of football.

The boys' team played well during pool play and managed to knock rivals (Papakura Normal School) out in the semi-final. They went on to play a tough game against Strathallan, who were unfortunately too strong through the field for our boys. Playing off for 3rd and 4th they went up against Conifer Grove. The team managed to win the game by one goal in the final few minutes, finishing third in the competition. They played hard and fair throughout the day and represented Ōpaheke well.

Many of the players in the girls' team had not played football before but they gave it their all on the field and can be very proud of their efforts. They won their first game against Conifer Grove School before going on to lose against Kāuri Flats and Papakura Normal (in a very close match!). Congratulations girls for being challenge takers and giving it a go! Special mention to Aria W whose football experience and talent set an example on the field.

Huge thanks to Brooke Hainsworth and Louise Austin for your patience and encouragement in helping our girls' team. Also to Chidubem's older brother Jude who helped out with coaching and refereeing our boys' team. An excellent role-model for our young footballers. Ngā mihi to all our whānau who came down and stood in the rain to support our teams.



Y5/6 North Counties Football Tournament

It was a wet and windy day on Thursday 3rd April but our year 5-8s wrapped up and stepped out onto the fields at McLennan Park to participate in the North Counties Football Tournament. Our two year 5 and 6 teams played extremely well despite the conditions, each winning 4/6 games. The tamariki showed great sportsmanship both on and off the field, cheering and supporting each other. Thank you to Nilesch, Mark, and Kerry for coming down to support with refereeing and managing the teams, it is much appreciated.



Auckland Swimming Champs

Well done to Kayne who represented Ōpaheke School at the Auckland Schools Swimming Champs on the 2nd April. He swam extremely well and in all three of his races.



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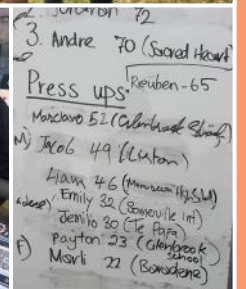
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Polyfest

What an amazing experience our Pasifika group got to be a part of on Wednesday 2nd April, attending the 50th annual Polyfest at Manukau Sports Bowl. As a group we watched a number of schools perform on the Māori stage (luckily enough before the rain set in on Friday!) and participated in a range of activities run by local community groups. Tamariki were able to see the quality of performances that were on show and hopefully aspire to participate when they too head off to high school. It was an amazing day full of smiles and laughter as they competed in push up competitions, held cans of corn beef for as long as they could, dressed up in Police uniforms and much more! Thank you to Rhonda, Daryn, Teise, and Emma who came along and supported throughout the day.



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Celebrating!

STAR Award Recipients

Our term one focus is 'Teamwork'.

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

Great work team!



Term 1 Week 9

Wet Weather Clothes

With the wet winter months approaching we thought it timely to remind everyone that students are not permitted on the fields at morning tea or lunch time in long pants. If they would like to play on the fields they will need to bring a pair of shorts to change into.

It is also recommended for students to bring a change of clothes in their school bags during the wet weather months.

With the ground being so wet, slips and trips do happen and students can end up quite wet and muddy.

We have a very limited number of spare clothes at the office however they are not always available in the correct size for all students. It is helpful if the students can have their own spare change of clothes in their bag for when accidents happen.



Board Notices

BIENNIAL HEALTH CURRICULUM CONSULTATION

Every 2 years the school informs parents, caregivers and community about the health education components of the curriculum.

A copy of our curriculum can be found here on our website: <https://www.opaheke.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Health-OVERVIEW-YEAR-1-8.pdf>.

Please provide feedback on our Health and PE programme by completing this questionnaire by Friday 11 April 2025.

HAVE YOUR SAY NOW

<https://forms.office.com/r/x2x80vwDhr>



PTA Notices



PTA MEETING

SCHOOL STAFFROOM

Come join the team to hear about the Family Funfest, Disco, Events and other PTA activities for 2025. All welcome!

APRIL 30 @ 7PM

ALL WELCOME! INCL CHILDREN

The volunteer Road Patrol parent group is desperately needing more helpers. Being a road patrol volunteer gets you involved with the school community. It helps the road patrol teams who do a great job in getting our students to school safely each morning and afternoon. The role involves you being on with the children from 8-8:25am each rostered time, and occasionally helping others if you're available to do so. This role is open to all parents, caregivers, grandparents and whānau of the school. Please email the school or PTA if you can help out. Thank you.

PATROL HELPERS NEEDED!



STUDENT CROSSING

OPAHEKE ROAD

WED & FRIDAY 8-8:25AM
FRIDAY 2:25-2:45PM

CASUAL BACK-UP

MORNINGS 8-8:25AM
AFTERNOONS 2:25-2:45PM
TO COVER WHENEVER NEEDED

Please see the office ASAP if you can help out with our patrols to get the kids safely to & from school.

OFFICE PHONE: 298-5410



OPAHEKE SCHOOL PTA PRESENTS

DISCO NIGHT

THURSDAY 10 APRIL
OPAHEKE SCHOOL HALL
FOOD! GOOD MUSIC!

TIMES

YEARS 1-2	YEARS 3-4	YEARS 5-8
5PM - 5.45PM	6PM - 6.45PM	7PM - 8PM

\$2 ADMISSION

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE PICKED UP BY AN ADULT
ATTENDANCE BY CURRENT OPAHEKE STUDENTS ONLY



OPAHEKE SCHOOL DISCO

PARENT HELPERS NEEDED!

4-5, 5-6, 6-7, 7-9PM | THURS 10 APRIL
PLEASE EMAIL PTA@OPAHEKE.SCHOOL.NZ



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IMPORTANT DATES

10 Apr	PTA Disco
11 Apr	Last day of Term 1 (normal finish time)
12-27 Apr	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
18-21 Apr	Easter Weekend
25 Apr	ANZAC Day
29 Apr	Fields of Remembrance
30 Apr	PTA Meeting 7pm
7-8 May	Y5/6 Ambury Park Trips
12 May	Board Meeting 7pm
16 May	Pink Shirt Day
16 May	Support Staff Day

TERM DATES 2025

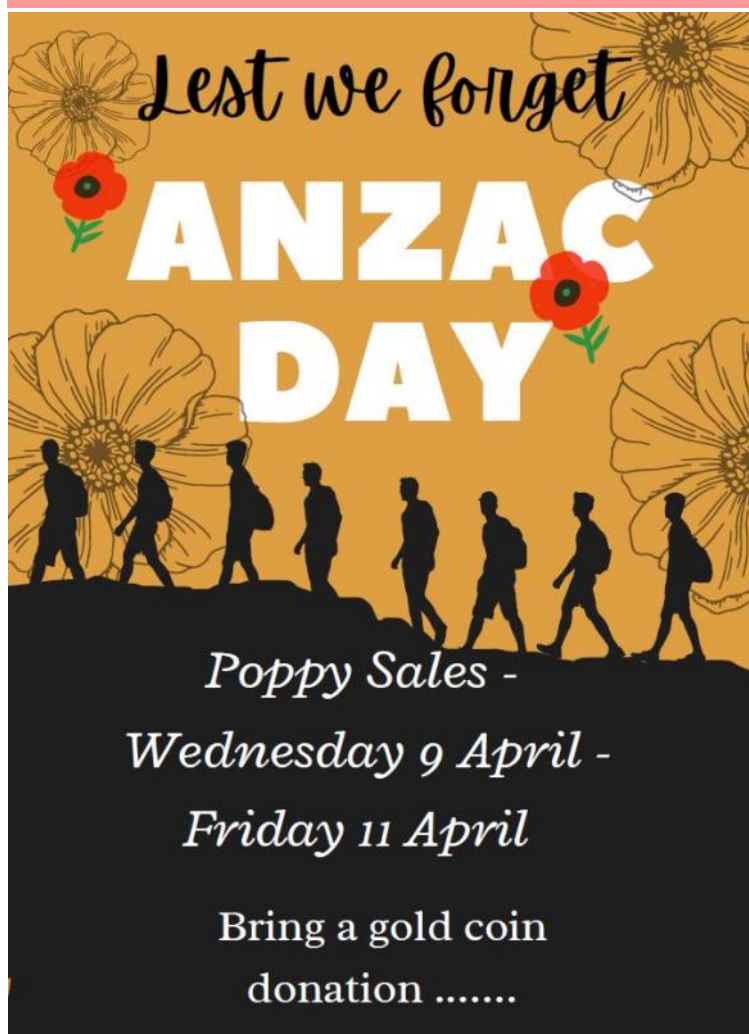
Term 1, 2025 - Tuesday 4 Feb to Friday 11 Apr
 Term 2, 2025 - Monday 28 Apr to Friday 27 Jun
 Term 3, 2025 - Monday 14 Jul to Friday 19 Sep
 Term 4, 2025 - Monday 6 Oct to Wednesday 17 Dec

STAR AWARDS

Term 1 - Teamwork

Room	Week 8	Week 9
R1		Manumi
R2		Tevita
R3		Faifili
R4		
R5		Unique
R6		Liam-Ray
R7		Ben
R8		Mason
R9		Jasmine
R10		Thomas
R11		Pearlynn
R12		Harmandeep
R15		Sehaj
R16		Navtej
R18		Liliana
R21		Avianna
R22		Adveek
R23		Elijah
R24		Ethan
R25		Declan
R26		Hamish
Pikopiko		Tupoutu'a
Te Rito		Serenity
Kānuka		Luke
Mānuka		Cooper
Kauri		Gemma

No Awards Assembly



Don't forget to turn on notifications on your phone to receive **instant alerts** from us via the **Skool Loop App**.

 **SKOOL LOOP** Simple free download: In Google Play or App Store search "Skool Loop" & choose our school once installed



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