



ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL



PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We are a Microsoft Showcase School



Microsoft

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

NCEA to be replaced?

At the start of the week, the Minister of Education made a significant announcement about the secondary school qualification pathway. The intention is to replace the current NCEA with a new qualification framework. Consultation on the proposal is now open and over the coming weeks schools and communities will have the opportunity to provide feedback and input on the final shape of this proposal. If you are a parent of students currently undertaking NCEA, I would encourage you to have some input.

The proposed changes won't come into effect until 2028, so it will only have impact on our current Ōpaheke Year 8's who will be the first wave to go through and all subsequent year level cohorts after them. When our current Year 8's hit Year 11 they will undertake the *Foundational Award*. From what I can gather, they may be reverting back to higher standards of literacy and mathematics in Year 11 as possible prerequisites (Foundational Award) and then narrowing down to a stronger focus on specific subjects in Year 12 and 13. For some of our parents out there, this may sound rather familiar. Anyhow, I will be paying close attention to what comes out, because I want our students to have every chance at success in their secondary schooling without inequities creeping in and blocking their path.



Kapa haka

How exciting to see our kapa haka roopu (group) on stage last week. Their new kakahu (costumes) looked stunning and are uniquely Ōpaheke. So grateful for the behind-the-scenes work of Mrs Stacey Madden and Matua Derek Hetaraka. It was also so great to see whānau turn up to help out and support, some of whom have been helping out for many years. It is pretty special. The kapa haka group will be performing at the *Rangatahi Festival* on the 5th of November at Redhill School. So exciting times are ahead.

Stay warm and stay well.

Mr Tawhiti.



CONTACT US

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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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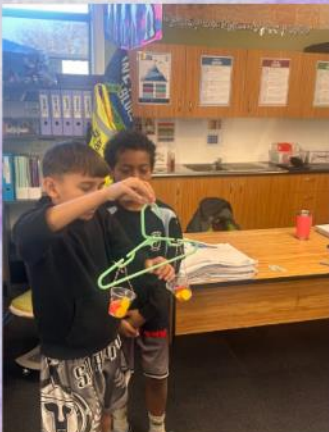


COLLABORATOR



CHALLENGE TAKER

Learning at Ōpaheke



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Sport

North Year 7 & 8 North Counties Cross-Country



We had a great day at Strathallan on Thursday 31st July for the Year 7 & 8 North Counties Cross-Country. After a week of rain, there was plenty of mud on the course and some slippery slopes. Congratulations to our team who all achieved their personal best on the day.

Results:

3rd Place Year 7 Girls Team – Aria, Athea, Aurora, Chloe, Ariana, Lana, Jazzleen, Sakinah, Grace

1st Place Year 7 Boys Team – Lennon, Alan, Gurnoor, Izz, Giovanni, Rahul, Anraj, Rhys, Quinn

3rd Place Year 8 Girls Team – Kourtney, Oviya Jasnoor, Mika, Mia, Aria, Ariyana

2nd Place Year 8 Boys Team – Xavier, Chidubem, Kayne, Devam, Damien, Dayton, Jermaine, Lucian, Akhbar

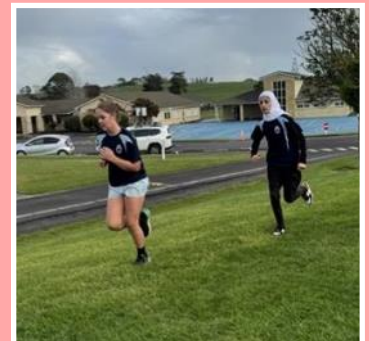
Thank you very much to our whānau who helped with marshalling. As always, your support is greatly appreciated.



Extra congratulations to these 5 boys who are representing North Counties at Counties Zone on Friday 8th August at the Franklin A&P Grounds.

Y7 Boys - 5th Quinn H, 6th Lennon K, 10th Rhys C

Y8 Boys - 4th Xavier D, 5th Kayne P



Year 5 & 6 Cross-Country

Our Year 5 and 6 students participated in the Ōpaheke School Cross-Country on the 31st July.

Congratulations to the following students who placed top 10 and will be going to represent our school at the Year 5/6 North Counties Cross-Country at Te Hihi School on the 13th August.

Year 5 Boys - Austin, Lucas, Kavish, Max, Grayson, Tyler, Choyrell, Bhavy, Raysheil and Ishman.

Year 5 Girls - Gemma, Summer, Piper, Frankie, Harper, Unaisi and Maryam.

Year 6 Boys - Luke W, Declan, Leo, Layne, Luke B, Wiliame, Jaxon and Chozin.

Year 6 Girls - Tarah, Calais, Ruby, Payton, Pranaya, Lilian, Keena, Eseta and Rebecca

Huge thank you to Rob, Amelia and Stephard from the Auckland Council's Animal Management Team who came to school to talk to our students about what to do if they encounter a dog on the street. They also helped to supervise our students while running to ensure they were safe from roaming animals.



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Welcome

Miss Melissa Coetser

Kia Ora! My name is Melissa Coetser, and I'm a new ESOL Learning Support Teacher at Ōpaheke School. I work alongside students to support and strengthen their literacy skills, helping them build confidence in reading, writing, and speaking English.



I'm currently in my final year of university, studying to become a primary school teacher, and I love being part of a learning environment where I can support and learn alongside our tamariki every day.

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time in nature, especially taking my dog for walks at the beach or botanical gardens. I come from South Africa, but I've spent most of my life growing up in Wellington, NZ. I'm really enjoying being part of the school community and supporting our amazing learners!

Miss Gabrielle Howard-Skelling

Kia Ora. My name is Gabrielle Howard-Skelling, I have just joined Ōpaheke School as a learning support teacher. I have been working as a learning support teacher in other schools for the past two years and absolutely love my role! I have helped to support a diverse range of needs and hope to become a teacher myself one day, specialising in special education. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, getting outdoors and fishing.



Kapa Haka

Last week, the Ōpaheke Kapa Haka rōpū performed for the first time, proudly adorned in our new kākahu. Ngā mihi nui to the One Foundation and the PTA for helping provide us with these beautiful uniforms.

We were all so proud of our tamariki as they faced their fears head-on and performed several waiata and haka with immense mana.

Ka rawe!



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Celebrating!

STAR Award Recipients

Our term three focus is 'Achieving Personal Best'.

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



PTA Notices



**Pizza, Sushi and Subway
Lunch Days!**
(Term 3 Dates)

Register and Order at www.dollarforschools.co.nz

Pizza - Thursday
July 31st

Sushi - Fridays
(fortnightly from
August 8th)

Subway - Fridays
(fortnightly from
August 15th)



3 Easy Steps:

- Go to: www.dollarforschools.co.nz
- Create an Account
- Add Lunch Recipient
- Order your lunches

Order now or by 9am for delivery that day

**\$1 for every lunch goes to
our School!**



A graphic for a PTA Meeting. It features a large black circle with the text 'PTA MEETING' in white. Below the circle, it says 'SCHOOL STAFFROOM' in green. The background is white with various school-related icons: a green book, a ruler, a yellow school bus, a globe, a pencil, and a hand holding a blue pen. A green star is in the top right corner, and a green speech bubble in the bottom right corner says 'ALL WELCOME! INCL CHILDREN'. A yellow banner at the bottom says 'AUGUST 20 @ 7PM'. Text at the bottom reads: 'Come join the team to hear about the Family Funfest, Disco, Events and other PTA activities for 2025. All welcome!'.



Thank you to everyone who supported this PTA fundraiser. Orders can be collected from the school hall on Thursday 14th August.



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IMPORTANT DATES

7 Aug	Y7/8 Football Skills Sessions Start
8 Aug	PTA Lunch Order - Sushi
8 Aug	Y6 Camp Bake Sale
11 Aug	Maths Week Starts
11 Aug	Y6 Camp Parent Meeting
13 Aug	Y5/6 NC Cross Country
14 Aug	Oxford Pies Delivered
15 Aug	Y5-8 Interhouse Mathex
15 Aug	PTA Lunch Order - Subway
18 Aug	Book Week Starts
19 Aug	Book Character Parade
20 Aug	PTA Meeting 7pm

TERM DATES

Term 3, 2025 - Mon 14 Jul to Fri 19 Sep

Term 4, 2025 - Mon 6 Oct to Wed 17 Dec

STAR AWARDS

Term 3 - Achieving Personal Best

Room	Week 3
R1	Stunner & Lilly
R2	Muhammad & Tevita
R3	Mereana & Caleb
R4	Winnie & Laurel
R5	Victor & Jensen
R6	Udaybir & Liam
R7	Antonio S & Amelia
R8	Unaisi & Jermaynn
R9	Takeshi & Clara
R10	Eva & Mercedes
R11	Inaise & Paige
R12	Aimainu & Angela
R15	Sammy & Sadie
R16	Victor & Meleane
R18	Cameron & Emaan
R21	Kiaan & Zara
R22	Keehan & Gurnoor
R23	Taini & Gretel
R24	Nishav & Ezra
R25	Scarlett & Amir
R26	George & Angel
Pikopiko	Charlee
Te Rito	Zion
Kākano	Jaipal
Kānuka	Mika & Oviya
Mānuka	Amanda & Izz
Kauri	Grayson & Luke



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Kumon afterschool Math & Reading Program

Sign up by 21st August and have \$100 enrolment fee waived off! Contact Kumon Papakura on 0210513616 or email us at kumonpapakura@gmail.com

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