



ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL



PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We are a Microsoft Showcase School



Microsoft

Get excited! Book Week is coming!

BOOK WEEK 6 AUGUST 18TH - 22ND

This week we will celebrate books and reading, with these school-wide activities:

Thursday 21st:
Perform Education Performance - Maybe a Miracle
 (Generously sponsored by the PTA)

Friday 22nd:
Book Character Parade
 Starting at approximately 8:40 am

Friday 22nd:
 New York Times best selling Author Graci Kim for students in Years 5-8!




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

Mālō e lelei

It is BOOK WEEK! It is all very exciting. I was so excited that I even read a book to a large and equally excitable student audience in the library last week, not realising it wasn't actually book week yet. But this week is the week! Lot's of fun activities coming up.

I am juggling a couple of novels at the moment. One a contemporary novel about the surprise discovery of Atlantis beneath an offshore oil rig, the other, a dusty and 'ancient' Joseph Conrad novel set during the French Revolution. New books, or old books, they still have the power to whisk you away to a world of wonder and as we all know, the best books linger in your heart and mind long after you put them down.

Our kids just keep pushing away the winter blues! I am so proud of how well our tamariki are learning, progressing and growing. This is not just the basics like reading, writing, and maths

**KEEP
WORKING
HARD.
LET THE
RESULTS
SPEAK FOR
THEMSELVES.**

either. There are a number of children who are growing as individuals and hitting personal milestones, things like handling emotions, getting ready for learning, playing positively with friends, even achieving personal bests in cross country. So perhaps treat your child and order an ice cream for them this **Ice Cream Friday**.

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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Learning at Ōpaheke



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Sport

Y7/8 Counties Zone Cross-Country

Counties Zone cross-country was held on Friday 8th of August at the Pukekohe Showgrounds. Ōpaheke School had 5 boys who had qualified to represent the North Counties Zone. Rhys, Quinn and Lennon were in the Year 7 boys team and Kayne and Xavier were in the Year 8 boys team. It was a challenging course, uphill and in the rain which made the course super muddy and slippery! Congratulations to all five boys who took up the challenge and did their very best. Well done to Quinn for qualifying for Auckland Zone on the 22nd of August, he will be representing Counties Zone in the Year 7 boys team.

Thank you to all parents who made it out to Pukekohe to support our runners on the day.



Year 5 & 6 North Counties Cross-Country

Well done to all the year 5 and 6 students who participated in the North Counties Cross Country event on the 13th August at Te Hihi School. It was a beautiful day out and everyone did a fantastic job at pushing themselves through a difficult course. A huge congratulations to the following students who placed amongst the top 10 in their specific categories, a huge achievement given there was approximately 70 students in each race.

Year 5 Girls: Gemma G - 7th

Year 5 Boys: Austin H - 3rd and Lucas O - 7th

Year 6 Girls Tarah M - 3rd

Year 6 Boys Luke W - 4th

A special ngā mihi to Miss Hamlin for taking our team to the event, and to all the parents who came to help and support our tamariki, it is always appreciated!



2026 Y8 Camp Fundraiser

YEAR 8 CAMP FUNDRAISER

ICE CREAM FRIDAY
\$2

THE YEAR 7 & 8 TEAM IS SELLING
CHOCOLATE COVERED VANILLA ICE CREAMS
WEEK 6 - FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST
DELIVERED TO CLASSES ON FRIDAY



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Welcome

Mrs Reena Chand

My name is Reena Pritika Chand and I was born and raised in Fiji. I moved to New Zealand last year and currently live in Pukekohe with my husband and two children who attend Ōpaheke school.

My strengths are in teaching literacy and numeracy. I am passionate about providing quality learning experiences for all learners. I speak Hindi, English and a bit of Fijian.

I believe in creating an environment where learners feel safe and are comfortable to take risks, make mistakes and work together.



Board Election



Parent and Staff Election Results Declaration (no voting election required)

At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Parent Representatives

- Doug Johnson
- Jonathan Francis
- Kirsty Harris
- Norman Olago
- Ray Chan

Staff Representative

- Elizabeth van der Klip



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Maths Week

Maths Week was celebrated within our school and across Aotearoa last week. Throughout the week, students engaged in a variety of maths activities both within their own classes and alongside their buddy classes. One highlight was a game inspired by the TV show *The Chase*, where students answered maths questions to earn 'money' and then faced off against a Chaser to try and hold onto their winnings.



As part of Maths Week, the Papakura Principals Association hosted their annual Mathex competition for Year 6–8 students from Papakura schools. We proudly entered two teams at each year level. The Year 7 competition was particularly exciting, ending with two tie-break rounds to determine final placings. One of our teams competed in the tie-break for 3rd and 4th place and came out victorious, securing 3rd place. Our other Year 7 team battled in the tie-break for 1st and 2nd place, narrowly missing the top spot and finishing an impressive 2nd. We are incredibly proud of all our students for their enthusiasm, teamwork, and outstanding efforts throughout the event.



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Tongan Language Week

Uike Kātoanga'i 'o e
lea faka-Tonga –
Tonga Language
Week

Celebrate: 17 - 23
August 2025

The 2025 theme for
Tonga Language
Week is 'Ko 'etau lea,
ko e fe'unu
mahu'inga ia ki he
mo'ui 'a e Tonga -
Our language is a
vital strand of our Tongan culture.'



LEARN SOME EVERYDAY PHRASES IN TONGAN

Mālō e lelei	Hello / Greetings
Mālō 'aupito	Thank you
Fakamolemole	Please
Fakamolemole	Apologies / Sorry
Ko hoku hingoá ko...	My name is ...

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information.
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our school once installed.



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!

AUGUST 20 @ 7PM

ALL WELCOME!
INCL CHILDREN



**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!**



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IMPORTANT DATES

20 Aug	PTA Meeting 7pm
21 Aug	Perform Education Performance
22 Aug	Book Character Parade
22 Aug	Author Visit - Graci Kim
22 Aug	Ice Cream Sales
22 Aug	PTA Lunch Orders - Sushi
28 Aug	Book Club Orders Due
28 Aug	Kelly Tarlton's Trip - R12, 21, 25 & 24
29 Aug	Kelly Tarlton's Trip - R22, 23, 26 & 24
29 Aug	Daffodil Day
1 Sep	Board Meeting 7pm
4 & 5 Sep	Y5/6 Botanic Gardens Trip
5 Sep	Teacher Appreciation Day
5 Sep	Pyjama Day
5 Sep	Learning Support Awareness Day
8 Sep	Father's Day Morning Tea

TERM DATES

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

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

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Bake Sale

Thank you for everyone
who supported our Year 6
bake sale. Room 6, 7 and
18 raised over \$1,200
towards our camp at
Chosen Valley in Term 4.



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