



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.

Tēnā koutou katoa

The term break is upon us and it comes at just the right time I feel. Everybody has been working very hard and the chance to recharge the batteries is just what is needed.

School Board Survey

The Board wants to reach out and gather your thoughts and ideas as we plan for the next 3 years at Ōpaheke. At the end of this week, a board survey will be distributed. We will send out an electronic version initially with hard copies will be available in the office. It is a simple survey that outlines our current strategic plan which has been in place for the past two years and then it asks you three open-ended questions.

What should we:

1. Stop doing
2. Keep doing
3. Think about doing

Go for gold on your responses. We want to know. The survey will be open for an extended period of time. So keep an eye out for it as I will keep pushing for responses.

As always, thank you for your support this term. Enjoy the break and be sure to catch our Black Ferns taking on Canada in the Rugby World Cup semifinal 6am Saturday morning. See you back on the 6th of October.

Ngā mihi – Many thanks

Mr Tawhiti



BOARD COMMUNITY SURVEY 2025



CONTACT US

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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

North Counties Basketball

We had 20 Year 7 & 8 students involved in the North Counties Basketball Tournament on Tuesday 9th of September. Thank you to Mahu and Sydney who stepped in to help coach the boys team on the day. They also kept everyone well-fed and hydrated. Thanks also to Chrissy and Kathryn who helped with transport and to all our whānau who came along to support us. The boys' team had a tough first game, with plenty of work ons for their games ahead. They ended the tournament with a win against Kelvin Road School. Despite not having huge amounts of basketball experience, the girls team won two pool games and had one draw. We learned some lessons about what fair play looks like and our team can hold their heads up high.



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Simple free download:
In Google Play & App Store search
'**Skool Loop**' & choose our
organisation once installed.



SCHOOL HATS REQUIRED FOR TERM 4



School sunhats are compulsory for all students during Term 1 and 4. Children not wearing the school sunhat will be required to stay in shaded areas and unable to participate in outdoor sports or play on the field, playground, or courts.

These are available for purchased from Uniform Hub Papakura, 117 Great South Road, Papakura or online at www.uniformhub.co.nz

Wide brim hat \$20 or bucket hat \$18.



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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.



Teacher Appreciation Day



Thank you to everyone who helped to make our teachers feel appreciated on Teacher Appreciation Day.



Wig Wednesday



Together we managed to raise over \$340 to donate to the Child Cancer Foundation. Huge thanks to everyone who donated and wore a wig or had a crazy hair style in support of this worthy cause.



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KIWI CHALLENGE RESULTS

RESULTS

The University of Canterbury's Great

Kiwi Challenge

ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

Distinction

Congratulations to Kylemore (Year 7) for achieving Distinction in the University of Canterbury's Great Kiwi English Challenge for English - a remarkable accomplishment that places him among the very top students in Aotearoa. Kylemore also demonstrated outstanding all-round performance, with Excellence in both Science and Mathematics. This achievement reflects not only his academic strength but also a deep curiosity and commitment to learning across all curriculum areas

Kylemore F (Distinction in English)



RESULTS

The University of Canterbury's Great

Kiwi Challenge

ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

Excellence

We are thrilled to be able to celebrate excellent attainment in the kiwi competitions for the following students. They all attained the grade of Excellence placing them in the top 9.6% of students who competed.

Congratulations to:

- Luke C (Excellence in Science)
- Kylemore F (Excellence in Science and Maths)
- Athea P (Excellence in English)
- Ishman S (Excellence in Maths)
- Alan W (Excellence in Maths)
- Victor Y (Excellence in Maths)
- Leo N (Excellence in Maths)
- Ethan B (Excellence in Maths)
- Eli C (Excellence in Maths)



RESULTS

The University of Canterbury's Great

Kiwi Challenge

ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

Merit

A huge congratulations to the following students for achieving the award of Merit in the kiwi competitions. Students who receive a Merit are in the top 25-10% of Students who competed in the competitions.

Congratulations to:

- Leo N (Merit in Science)
- Ethan B (Merit in Science and English)
- Devam S (Merit in Science and English)
- Oviya V (Merit in Science and English)
- Victor Y (Merit in English)
- Eli C (Merit in English)
- Bhavy D (Merit in Maths)
- Kavish K (Merit in Maths)
- Nora Z (Merit in Maths)
- Lincoln F (Merit in Maths)
- Rahul K (Merit in Maths)



RESULTS

The University of Canterbury's Great

Kiwi Challenge

ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

Achieved

Students who placed in the top 50-25% received the grade of Achieved. A big congratulations to all those students for this achievement.

Congratulations to:

- Henith P (Achieved in Science and Maths)
- Eli C (Achieved in Science)
- Malavika D (Achieved in Science)
- Evan D (Achieved in Science, English and Maths)
- Rahul K (Achieved in Science and English)
- Anraj S (Achieved in Science and Maths)
- Emma B (Achieved in Maths)
- Luke C (Achieved in Maths)
- Grayson F (Achieved in English and Maths)
- Ethan V (Achieved in Maths)
- Ben S (Achieved in Maths)
- Libby T (Achieved in English and Maths)
- Jazzleen M (Achieved in English and Maths)
- Athea P (Achieved in Maths)
- Mikayla C (Achieved in English and Maths)
- Aariya C (Achieved in Maths)
- Devam S (Achieved in Maths)
- Oviya V (Achieved in Maths)
- Alan W (Achieved in English)
- Tejas J (Achieved in English)
- Winnie Yang (Achieved in English)



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Y5/6 Botanic Gardens Trip

Rangitoto's Year 5 and 6 students got to spend a day at Auckland Botanical Gardens recently. We participated in the Spongy Schools, Spongy Cities Programme. We learnt how we can make our schools and cities more resilient to flooding. By planting plants we increase the absorbency of the ground and less water ends up on our roads, in our gutters and down stormwater drains.

We were guided to think about what happens to rain when it falls in the city compared with in nature. We are experiencing changes in our weather due to climate change, like more heavy rain events that cause flooding. Cities traditionally have hard surfaces aplenty, with roads, roofs, playgrounds and carparks. During rain events these allow water to build up, filling stormwater drains and causing flooding. In nature, soil and vegetation absorbs water, reducing the risk of flooding.

We went on a scavenger hunt, planted our own harakeke plants and had plenty of opportunity to explore the beautiful Botanical Gardens too.

We are truly grateful to Blue Light and Papakura Community Resilience Network for funding this amazing opportunity, as well as so many whānau who were able to come along for the day.



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MAUNGAKIEKIE TRIP TO THE AUCKLAND MUSEUM

This term, the Maungakiekie Team have been learning about the living and material world in our Inquiry. We explored what living things need to survive, why some become extinct, and how fossils help us learn about dinosaurs and other creatures from the past.

Last week, we visited the Auckland Museum. We saw real fossils and took part in a workshop where we learned even more about dinosaurs. It was a fun and exciting day of learning.

A huge thank you to our wonderful whānau helpers who made this experience possible!



Chickens are a type of dinosaur because chickens and a T-Rex have some parts of their skeleton that are the same. - Dustyn

The T-Rex is huge. Its tooth is bigger than a banana. - Mercedes

We held a triceratops poo that turned into a fossil! - Troy



A T-Rex's brain is smaller than a human's brain. - Vienna

A pterodactyl is not a dinosaur. It is a flying reptile. It only has three fingers because its long pinky is flapping its wings. - Jordan

Fossils are hard but they will break if we drop them. - Dinewni



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PTA Notices



COME ON DOWN FOR A BOOGIE AND FUN TIMES!

OUR ŌPAHEKE PTA INVITES YOU TO THE END OF TERM

Ōpaheke School Disco!

FOOD! GOOD MUSIC! ADMISSION \$2

PLEASE NOTE: NO OLDER SIBLINGS ALLOWED, ONLY CURRENT STUDENTS AND PARENTS.

THURSDAY 18 SEP, 2025

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

ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL HALL



PTA MEETING CANCELLED

SCHOOL STAFFROOM

Coming to the PTA Meeting about the Family Funfest, Disco, Sports and other PTA activities for 2025. All welcome!

SEPTEMBER 17 @ 7PM

ALL WELCOME! INCL CHILDREN



OPAHEKE SCHOOL DISCO

PARENT HELPERS NEEDED!

4-5, 5-6, 6-7, 7-9PM THURS 18 SEPTEMBER

PLEASE EMAIL PTA@OPAHEKE.SCHOOL.NZ



Reminder! PIZZA DAY!

Friday

Register and Order at www.dollarforschools.co.nz




3 Easy Steps:

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

Order online by 9am for delivery that day

\$1 for every lunch goes to our School!




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IMPORTANT DATES

17 Sep	PTA Meeting - CANCELLED
18 Sep	PTA Disco
19 Sep	Pyjama Day - CANCELLED
19 Sep	PTA Pizza Day
19 Sep	Last Day of Term 3 - 2.30pm Finish
6 Oct	First Day Back for Term 4
8 Oct	Out of Zone Applications Close
8 Oct	Y6 Camp Parent Meeting 6pm
9 Oct	ShakeOut - Earthquake Drill
13 Oct	Yummy Stickers Due
14 Oct	Y7/8 Epro8
15-17 Oct	Y5 EOTC
15-17 Oct	Y6 Camp
15 Oct	Out of Zone Ballot
15 Oct	PTA Meeting 7pm
16 Oct	Y8 Gardasil Dose 2
20 Oct	Board 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 9
R1	Ruth & Alexis
R2	Austin & Eden
R3	
R4	Roseanne & Armaan
R5	Siri & Maryam
R6	Palvi & Ausami
R7	Lincoln & Ben
R8	Frankie & Marlee
R9	Ezmae & Alina
R10	Alvar & Zorawar
R11	Violet & Koen
R12	Rolene & Gurbani
R15	Cole & Levi
R16	Elijah & Willow
R18	Ngahuaia & Anmol
R21	Elise & Joseph
R22	Prabhnoor & Gurnoor
R23	Taini & Guntash
R24	Yashwin & Samara
R25	Ben & Jace
R26	
Pikopiko	Brody & Harsifat
Te Rito	Odin
Kākano	Lyric
Kānuka	
Mānuka	Cooper & Athea
Kauri	Everleigh & Henith

UPCOMING
**TEACHER
ONLY DAY**
24th October

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