



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

How good was the Funfest? Warm weather, loads of people and entertainment. A massive thank you to the PTA, parent volunteers, and staff who worked so hard to make it a success.

Staying On The Grind

The end of year is not far off, but here at school we are making a big deal of keeping our heads down and tails up, and pushing the learning right until the end of the year. Our teachers don't even mention the C word (Christmas) until the last few days of school, in order to keep a lid on the excitement and avoid distraction. Obviously, we encourage parents to keep an eye on our end of year activities, such as Prizegiving and team-specific events. But in terms of your own children, can I ask that you support us to keep learning in focus by doing some or all of the following:

- Talk to your child about their learning in the evening.
- Get your child to pack their bag e.g. hat, togs, lunch, water.
- Limit the late nights. Kids get over tired this time of year. Sleep is good.
- Provide healthy lunch options with low sugar and plenty of water.

Board Survey

Thank you to all of our parents who took the time to complete the Board Survey. As expected, the feedback was insightful, not only outlining areas for improvement, but also affirming some of the good stuff we are doing and that you want to see continue and strengthened. Sometimes we don't know, unless you tell us, so feedback of this nature is always very much appreciated. I did, however, expect to see more, so I am going to send hard copies home for you to scribble on. Please send them back to school with your child and they can hand completed surveys into their classroom teacher.

Ngā mihi – Many thanks

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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Learning at Ōpaheke



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Sport

Year 5/6 Athletics

Well done to all our year 5 and 6 students who participated in our syndicate athletics last Tuesday! It was a great day out in the sun, putting skills we have been learning into practice. Well done to those students who were selected to represent Ōpaheke School at North Counties!



Year 5/6 EPro8 Challenge

On Thursday, 30 October, two teams of Year 5 & 6 students represented our school in the Interschool EPro8 competition. This exciting event focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

Students could choose from several challenges, including building a barrier arm, a mobile shopping trolley, a foosball table, or a laser tag setup. One of our teams selected the shopping trolley challenge, while the other worked on the barrier arm.

As part of the task, they first constructed their projects, then added electronics to enable movement in all directions—forward, backward, left, and right. For the shopping trolley team, the next step was navigating the hall in a timed “shopping” activity.

The challenge didn't stop there! Students also solved multiple mathematical problems, such as converting footsteps into metres to calculate distance.



Both teams worked exceptionally well under pressure, and we are proud to share that one team placed 3rd equal. Congratulations to all participants for their creativity, teamwork, and perseverance!



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CHALLENGE TAKER

THANK YOU Parent Helpers

WEDNESDAY 26TH
NOVEMBER FROM 6PM

AS A WAY OF SAYING THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY, THE
ŌPAHEKE SCHOOL BOARD WOULD LIKE TO INVITE
YOU TO OUR

THANK YOU TO PARENTS
EVENING IN THE STAFFROOM

WHERE THEY CAN SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION
WITH DRINKS AND NIBBLES AND YOU CAN ENJOY A
LOW KEY FUN EVENING CATCHING UP WITH OUR
BOARD AND OTHER PARENT HELPERS.
CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AS WELL.

Please let the school office know if you can make it
by Thursday 20th November for catering purposes.
RSVP: 09 298 5410 or office@opaheke.school.nz



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Rangitahi Festival

On Wednesday, 5th November, our Ōpaheke School Senior Kapa Haka Rōpū proudly represented us at the Rangitahi Festival, held at Redhill School. They performed alongside 12 other schools from our local area.



We are incredibly proud of the effort and commitment of our students — attending regular practices, including after-school sessions. Their hard work and dedication truly shone through as they stood proudly and performed with mana. Ka rawe!

Y3/4 Maungarei Gymnastics



Last week, our Year 3-4 students participated in a "Have a Go" gymnastics programme designed to develop key physical education skills. Lessons focused on balance, co-ordination, strength, and flexibility, with students practising movements, such as rolls, jumps, and controlled landings. These activities aligned with the Health and Physical Education curriculum, supporting students in building body awareness, spatial understanding, and safe movement practices.



In addition to physical skill development, gymnastics has provided opportunities for students to demonstrate perseverance, resilience, and teamwork. By working collaboratively and encouraging one another, they are also strengthening their social and emotional learning.

We would like to thank Helen and her team of instructors for running the sessions. A special shout out to our parent helpers too for making this day possible.

Loud Shirt Day

Thank you to everyone who participated and/or donated to our Loud Shirt Day fundraiser on the 29th October. Our students looked fabulous and loud.

We raised over \$166 to go to The Hearing House for support people with hearing loss or impairment.



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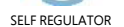
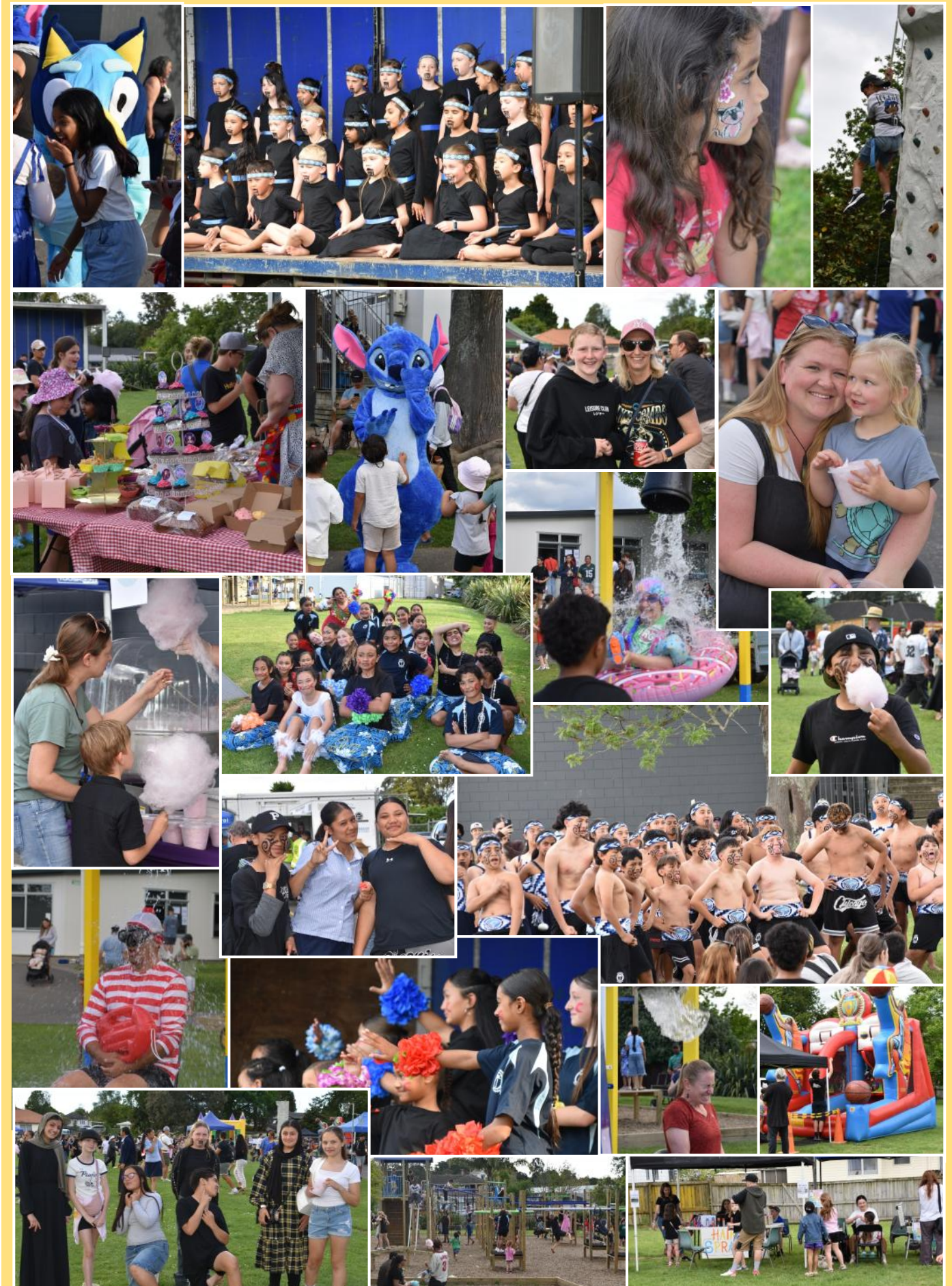
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FunFest Sponsored by



Special thanks to Families & Individuals

For their contributions:

The Fraser Family
The Foster Family
The Campbell Family
Moonlight Catering
Gajoy's Kitchen
McInnes Family
Massey Park Pools
McCormick Showers
The Tappin Family
The Seales Family
The Barnfield Family
Cottage 135 - Rotorua
Blackwood - Fairy Springs
MS Auto Mechanical
Childrens Cartoon Character Entertainers



Lunches Term 4

Register and Order at www.dollarforschools.co.nz

Sushi and Subway
Fridays
(excl Pizza days)



Pizza Days
Friday Oct 31st
Friday Dec 5th



Order now or by 9am for delivery that day

\$1 for every lunch goes to
our School!



SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER

11am to 4pm

BRUCE PULMAN PARK

90 Walters Road, Takanini



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IMPORTANT DATES

14 Nov	Y7/8 NC Athletics
18 Nov	Y7/8 Bakesale Fundraiser
19 Nov	Y3/4 Dance Party Fundraiser
20 Nov	Y1/2 Gymnastics
21 Nov	Y5-8 Interhouse Mathex
24 Nov	Board Meeting 7pm
26 Nov	Board Thank You to Parents 6pm
28 Nov	Carols in the Park 6pm
5 Dec	Rainbows End Trip
9 Dec	Rosehill College Transition Day
9 Dec	Y3/4 EOTC
15 Dec	Y0-4 Market Day
16 Dec	Y8 Graduation and last day of school
17 Dec	Y0-7 Last day of school - 12pm finish



STAR AWARDS

Term 4 - Striving for Excellence

Room Week 5

R1

R2

R3

R4

R5

R6

R7

R8

R9

R10

R11

R12

R15

R16

R18

R21

R22

R23

R24

R25

R26

Pikopiko

Te Rito

Kākano

Kōwhai

Kānuka

Mānuka

Kauri

TERM DATES 2026

Term 1, 2026 - Wed 4 Feb to Thurs 2 Apr
 Term 2, 2026 - Mon 20 Apr to Fri 3 Jul
 Term 3, 2026 - Mon 20 Jul to Fri 25 Sep
 Term 4, 2026 - Mon 12 Oct to Wed 16 Dec 2026

Yummy Stickers

Thank you to everyone who helped us collect Yummy Stickers over the last year.

We have submitted all your stickers and our school has been awarded \$441 to spend on sports gear this year.

Our school takes part in this promotion every year, keep collecting and you can send your stickers in at any point for us to collect and submit again next October.



Stay "in the loop" with our communication app!

Events | Cancellations | Notices
 Newsletters | Permission slips
 Instant notifications | Absentees
 Parent Teacher Interviews

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



No Awards Assembly



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