



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

Social Behaviour

After reading our recent parent survey responses, it's clear that having a safe social environment at Ōpaheke School is incredibly important to our whānau—and to us. Helping our tamariki navigate the occasional friendship niggles is a shared responsibility. We rely on the grounding you give them at home to minimise major conflicts, and we value your support when issues do arise.

Mrs McCormack, our librarian, recently shared a research-based article with me about how reading at home can boost children's social skills and creative problem solving.

For example, while reading *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, you might ask, "How do you think Mama Bear felt when she found someone had eaten the porridge?" Then follow with, "What could you do if someone took your lunch at school?"

Most books include some kind of social conflict or dilemma, so use these moments as a discussion point with your child.

For older students in Years 5-8, you might discuss a news item together or ask them to describe a book character and explain their thoughts about them and why. Can I even suggest '*Holes*' by Louis Sachar. A fantastic story with many interesting plot twists. Your child would love it, and then once they finish the book, let them watch the movie.

Don't simply see reading as a way for your child to settle at bedtime, or practice their reading. See reading as a way to build the brain connections they need to better understand others and imagine possibilities when navigating social problems. I'd love for you to give it a go.

Early Arrivals

A small number of children have been arriving before 7.30am. Great to have your kids at school, however, this is a bit too early as we don't normally have adult supervision available before this time. We want to ensure your kids are safe, so please make arrangements to have your kids arrive sometime after 7.40am please.

Teacher Only Day

We have set a Teacher Only Day for Tuesday 28th April 2026. This is required to enable staff to do work associated with the new reporting and assessment requirements set by the Ministry of Education.

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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Whanaungatanga Hui

**WED
MAR 11
3.00–4.00
PM**

**BOOK
NOW**

**THU
MAR 12
1.00 –
5.30PM**



To book your meeting go to
www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code
and enter code : **wgm52**

Or call our office team to book in with them.

**Early school finish time of 12.00pm on
Thursday 12th March**



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Sport



Y5/6 North Counties Tag Tournament

Our Year 5 and 6 students had a fantastic day at the TAG tournament at Bruce Pulman Park. The boys made it all the way to the finals and the girls played brilliantly, reaching the semi-finals. It was awesome to see our tamariki out there showing great sportsmanship, teamwork, and pride in our school. Days like this are what it is all about playing hard, supporting each other, and having fun. Well done to everyone who took part!



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PTA Notices



Opaheke School Lunches Term 1

Register and Order at www.dollarforschools.co.nz

Sushi and Subway
Fridays
(excl Pizza days)



Pizza Days !
Friday Feb 20th
Friday March 27th



Order now or by 9am for delivery that day

\$1 for every lunch goes to
our School!



AGM & PTA MEETING

SCHOOL STAFFROOM

Come join the team to hear about the discos and other events the PTA are planning for 2026. All welcome!

MARCH 25 @ 7PM

ALL WELCOME!
INCL CHILDREN

Community Events

HARVEST FAMILY CARNIVAL

a free Children's Day event

*** inflatable slide ***
pony rides kids ferris wheel
games kids merry-go-round
parents café sausage sizzle
shows + more

Sunday 8 March 3pm-6pm

3 Beach Road, Papakura

(09) 299 9394
www.hcc.net.nz



DRURY JUNIOR RUGBY 2026

Calling all players from years 0 - 8
Come be part of the Drury Rugby family

Have a go day	Junior Muster
Sunday 1 March 1-3pm	Sunday 22 March 2pm

Follow us on Facebook
DRURY JUNIOR RUGBY



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IMPORTANT DATES

24-27 Feb	Y7 EOTC and Y8 Camp
26-27 Feb	Y3-6 WSFL Massey Park Sessions
4 Mar	North Counties Swimming
11 Mar	North Counties Touch
11-12 Mar	Whanaungatanga Hui
12 Mar	School Finishes 12 noon
13 Mar	Leadership Day for Councillors
18 Mar	Polyfest
18 Mar	North Counties Football

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

STAR AWARDS

Term 1 - Teamwork

Room	Week 3
R1	Amaal & Max
R2	Finn & Pariya
R3	Giovanni & Hannah
R4	Ngahuaia & Ishnoor
R5	Ishman & Losana
R6	Matileti & Jermaynn
R7	Elliot & Luke
R8	Ninke & Sithun
R10	Jasmine & Azaan
R11	Miles & Malcolm
R12	Joseph and Isobel
R15	Kasey & George
R16	James & Emerson
R18	Solomon & Gurmukh
R21	Lilinah & Arlyn
R22	Violet & Milica
R23	Clayton & Harper
R24	Teghman & Nao
R25	Gurtaaj & Elise
R26	Mateo & Isabella
Pikopiko	Elijah & Riley
Te Rito	Manino & Noah
Kānuka	Lilly and Elly
Mānuka	Eni and Layne
Kauri	Isabella and Aisyah

UPCOMING TEACHER ONLY DAY

Tuesday 28th April

Stay in the loop with School News, Events & Notices



With our Skool Loop app!

Download today to keep up to date with school information. Notices, newsletters, absentee notifications and much more.

Simple free download

Scan the QR code or In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.



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