

OPAKI SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER NO 1 - 1 February 2012

Welcome back everyone to 2012. I hope you all have had an enjoyable break and spent quality time with your children. We have seen the enrolment of 17 new children to Opaki School, the biggest number in some years. We want to welcome you to Opaki School and hope you enjoy your time here.

Samuel Winslade, Carl Hayes, Jack Pallister, Bella Williams - Room 3, Lily Allan, Briella Tupaea, Luke Harp, Katelin Drummond, Willow Knight, Reon Kahui, Nikhil Satya, Phoebe Wylie - Room 7, Harris Allan, David Rogers, Hayley Kilmister - Room 5. Beth Pallister, Henry Wylie - Room 4,



NEW SEAL

At the end of last week the road outside the school was re-sealed. We ask you, if you are entering any of the school buildings that you remove your shoes so as not to drag tar inside. Hopefully it will settle down over the coming weeks.

BUS BAY

The bus area outside the school gates has been enlarged so that both buses can park behind each other instead of blocking the road. Please can you not park inside this area before 9am and between 2.30 and 3.15pm. This would be much appreciated.

OPAKI STAFF 2012

Room 1	Yr 7/8	Belinda Bunny
Room 2	Yr 6/7	Hanna Vollebregt
Room 3	Yr 5	Spencer Pallister
Room 4	Yr 4	Robyn Farmer/Helen Walker
Room 5	Yr 2/3	Sam Shackleton
Room 6	Yr 1/2	Jude McNeur
Room 7	Yr 1	Cath Cameron (DP)
Dave Finlayson		Principal
Lynn Schaefer		Office Administrator
Lance Hannam		Cleaner
Brian Crarer		Caretaker
Merren Walke		Teacher Aide
Ann Topham		"
Mary Field		"
Di Stewart		"
Keith Marsh		"

PARENT/ TEACHER MEETINGS

This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and be informed about the coming year, expectations, units of work, how you can help etc. We hope you can make the meetings.

This will be held on:

Feb 8 - Rooms 5,6 and 7 - Rooms 6 & 7 will meet together in Room 7

Feb 9 - Rooms 1,2,3,4 - Rooms 1 & 2 will meet in Room 1 & Rooms 3 & 4 will meet in Room 3 at 6pm.

PARENT/TEACHER 1 - 1 INTERVIEWS

This is something new that we are trialling this year, where we are giving you the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and discuss their goals and to gain information from you that will help their teacher. These interviews will take place on Friday 17 February from 1pm - 3.30pm and Tuesday 21 February 3.30 - 7pm. A sheet for you to fill in will come home next week. Children from Yr 4 up will also need to be present at the interview, as it is important that everyone receives the same message and we are all moving in the same direction.

ABEL TASMAN CAMP MEETING

The camp is just over a month away, so we will be having a camp meeting straight after the Parent/Teacher meetings on February 9. This would be a good opportunity to find out more about the camp especially those parents who are coming.

DONATION INCREASE

As Chris Lewis mentioned at the end of year concert last year, the school donation will be going up. This will be the first time we have increased the donation in 10 years. Unfortunately financially, we can't keep running as we are without increasing this.

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END OF 2011 YEAR COMPARISON OF DATA

We have collated and graphed the children's formal standardised testing. Children from Year 3 - Year 8 completed a variety of tests at the beginning of last year. The information gathered gave the teacher direction for their years teaching. The children were retested in October. We are very proud of the efforts and learning that took place with notable improvements by many. Your individual children's results were in the Portfolios but if you wish to see the overall school/year group gains in learning please view the graphs on the board in the office.

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TUG OF WAR 2011

The 2011 Tug of War team - Jonas Tamihana, Sam Guise, William Foster, Jacob Foster and Sam Guise decided to donate their winnings of \$100 to the Enviro Group to use on the Waipipi Reserve in 2012. Thanks guys an awesome donation.

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SWIMMING TOGS

Please can you send your child's togs and towel along each day for swimming. Swimming is a compulsory part of the PE programme. If you child is not swimming for a particular reason, they will require a note. Your child's teacher will decide whether they go swimming or not depending on the weather.

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STATIONERY

Your child will be issued with their stationery this week. An account will come home which you need to pay at the office of through internet banking. This can not be added to your stationery account. Your child will not receive their stationery until 2011 accounts have been settled.

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SCHOOL LUNCHES

These will start again on **Friday 10 February**. An order form is enclosed with this Newsletter. Please send orders along to school on Friday, in an envelope, to your child's class. We still require a few parents to help collate the lunches. This only takes about an hour on Friday mornings at 9am and if we get enough parents on the roster you will only be require maybe twice a term. If you can help please fill out the return slip enclosed with this Newsletter or contact Lynn in the office..

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ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER.

Starting next week the Newsletter will be sent electronically. If you don't receive it by email can you please contact Lynn in the office so we can sort the problem out. If you do not wish your Newsletter to come electronically please fill out the return slip or contact Lynn in the office. Can you also contact Lynn if you have changed your email since last year.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Noemi Leinfellner who won 5 bronze medals at the Wellington Long Course Summer Champs in January. Noemi made it to every final she competed in. 100m Breaststroke 3rd, 100m Backstroke 3rd, 200m Breaststroke 3rd, 200m Individual Medley 3rd, 50m Breaststroke 3rd. A fine prospect for the future. Congratulations also to Noemi for winning a Smoke Free Colouring Competition last year. She has won \$100 worth of sports equipment for the school. Well done Noemi

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FRIDGE MAGNETS

Enclosed with the Newsletter is a fridge magnet with all our contact details and the dates of the terms. Thankyou to Barber Contracting (Bustsabuilt Fences) who have sponsored the magnets. Much appreciated.

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WAIRARAPA TENNIS JUNIR REP TRIALS

These will be held on Friday 3rd February 3.30 - 6pm at the Masterton Tennis Courts. If anyone is interested please phone Cilla Paulik for more information 372 5893

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FONTERRA SCIENCE ROADSHOW

Year 6s will be going to this in March with Mrs Walker. Further details will be provided once we have a confirmed date and time.

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FRIENDS OF OPAKI

For those of you who are new to Opaki School, the Friends of Opaki is the school's fundraising committee.

Our aim is to work closely with the board and teachers to help support and provide additional funding to projects not covered under normal budgets.

Last year we provided money towards the leasing of the laptops, funding towards the new obstacle area, filled teacher's requests (sports bibs, kidney table etc) and purchased a school freezer. We have also funded a new climbing net to be placed in the playground, therefore watch out for this to go up soon. This was obtainable through the fundraisers last year such as the Loopline Jazz and Blues, Allyson Gofton's Book Launch, The Annual Plant Sale and Art Calendars.

Our goal this year is to further provide money towards the leasing of the laptops and in addition to this we are supporting the upgrade of the school server. Our fundraising efforts this year will be towards these, with also assisting teacher requests.

We aim to raise funds for these requests and more by running again this year the Plant Sale, Raffles and we have an addition this year of a Golf Tournament.

We attempted to start this year off with the Loopline Jazz and Blues, unfortunately weather did not allow this to go ahead. We still wish to thank all those who did the fantastic prep work to this event and to all those who were set to help on the day.

Like all committees we appreciate your help, many hands make light work. Please feel free to contact us should you be able to help out in anyway, either by joining our fun and friendly committee, offering help when events are on or in other way you see fit. We welcome all enquiries and suggestions, thanks - Chris Anstis ph 3773757.

Year 6/7/8 Fundraising Time Table and Activities

Date & Time	Activity	Cost
Tuesday 7th Feb <i>Morning Tea</i> <u>Georgia & Meg</u>	Bake Sale	.50c & \$1
Thursday 9th Feb <i>Lunch Time</i> <u>Byron & Jacob</u>	Sausage Sizzle	Order Form on Newsletter \$2 Per Sausage
Wednesday 15th Feb <i>Morning Tea</i> <u>Nathan & Matthew</u>	Spiders	\$1

ORGANIC FERTILISER FOR YOUR GARDEN

Well rotted horse manure for sale.

Tip truck load \$30.00 delivered. Sack full \$5.00, pick up from Opaki School.

Sheep manure available as well.

Phone Ben Cheetham 06 375 8950

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PIANO LESSONS

Peter Caldwell is looking forward to beginning piano lessons on Thursday February 2nd in Aronui. Could parents of current pupils please phone, or email Peter to confirm their children's piano learning for this term/year.

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LUNCHES

Yes, I am available to go on the lunch roster.

Name

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SAUSAGE SIZZLE - Thursday 9 February

	Total	
Sausage and Bread	\$2.00

Name..... Room No

