

Halcombe School

RD 9, FEILDING

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www.halcombe.school.nz



Term 1 Week 1

28th January 2020

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

A warm welcome back to the 2020 school year! Hopefully you all had time to take a break at some stage, enjoy the company of friends and family, and just relax! We are all excited about working alongside your children this year. We have lots of exciting things planned and, as usual, the term will just rush by. A special welcome to those who are new to our community and our 5 year olds who are just starting school.

Beach Trip

You will find attached information about our whole school trip to Kai Iwi Beach next week on Wednesday 5th February.

The form MUST be back at school by Friday this week please.

Staffing

We are very pleased to welcome Miss Prior, Miss Faulkner and Mr Kleinschmidt to the teaching team this year.

Junior Team	Mrs Barbara Davies	Room 1 (Deputy Principal and Junior Team Leader)
	Mrs Debbie Turner	Room 2
	Mrs Rebecca Hughes	Room 3
	Miss Hannah Prior	Room 4
Senior Team	Miss Aimee Faulkner	Room 5
	Mr Kieren Kleinschmidt	Room 6
	Mrs Rebecca Higgle	Room 7
	Miss Di Simpson	Room 8 (Deputy Principal and Senior Team Leader)
Secretary	Mrs Paula Stace	
Teacher Aide	Mrs Kirsten Otter	
Caretaker/Cleaner	Mr Alan Martin	
Principal	Mrs Sue Simpson	

7th February - Teacher Only Day

Next week the school will be closed on Friday 7th February, the day following Waitangi Day. This will mean a 4 day break.

Swimming

- Each class has a swimming session **every day**, so please ensure your children have the correct gear.
- Swimming is part of the school programme, so children must bring a note if they are not swimming.
- **Names on togs and towels would be great – really great – yes really, really great!** We cut up lost/unnamed towels for rags – we really do!
- Girls wear a one-piece suit, or have their midriff covered if wearing a two-piece suit. No board shorts.
- Boys should wear proper swimming shorts (not shorts they would wear in class) above the knee, or 'speedos'.

Senior Team

Next Tuesday 4th February, students will bring home their exercise books for covering with Duraseal. Please send the books back on Monday 10th February. If there are any problems, please let us know.

School rules. A few reminders

- No nail polish please. Don't let your children apply nail polish if you don't have remover at home!
- No jewellery except plain stud earrings.
- Hair tied back with **simple clips/ties** please.
- Hats with a wide all round brim. Bucket hats are perfect.
- Plain haircuts (no 'mohawks', rat's tails, colours, zigzags etc).
- No singlet tops please – t shirts with a short sleeve are best as it stops shoulders being sunburnt.

After School Care

A number of people have made contact about after school care here at school. We are looking at this. If you are interested in helping to **SUPERVISE**, please get in touch. There are certainly no guarantees, but before we do anything, we need to know that enough people might be keen to **SUPERVISE**.

Sun Safety

At our school, teachers regularly remind students to wear their hats, apply sun screen, and spend time in the shade at break times. We are always mindful of sun safety when we're planning outdoor activities, and try to provide shade where we can. This is an important time to remind parents that older students in **Rooms 6, 7 and 8 are responsible for their OWN sun safety**. Sun screen is always readily available at school, so if students in these classes choose not to apply it, we will not be chasing them up!

KIT Books

Our 'Keep in Touch' books are a very important part of our school and key to good communication. These books travel to and from school every day, so you can write notes for us, and teachers can let you know what is happening at school. Please READ your child's KIT book each day and ensure they bring it to school. We had a few children at the end of last year who often arrived without their KIT books, which meant lots of confusion and missed messages about what was happening at school.

We look forward to your support.

PLEASE READ THE INSIDE COVER OF YOUR CHILD'S KIT BOOK TONIGHT.

Pool Keys

The school pool is available for families to use after school and at weekends, until Wednesday 4th March. There is a \$40 charge for a key. Keys, and a contract for you to sign, are available this week at the Office. The pool is a very warm 27deg.

Hats

Thank you everyone for remembering hats yesterday! An awesome start.

School invoices

We will send home invoices in 2 or 3 weeks' time for:

- Stationery Packs. The price varies for each class.
- School Picnic to Kai Iwi Beach \$4 per student.
- School Charge: This payment helps us to provide classroom essentials such as tissues, sunblock and the weekly newsletter. The charge is \$15 per family for the year. If you do not pay the \$15, you will need to provide your child with sunblock, tissues and print off your own newsletter if return slips are required. We do not have school fees or donations.

Coronavirus

- our school is closely monitoring information being provided by Health, in regard to the Coronavirus
- the risk of an outbreak in New Zealand is currently low and Health's current advice is that there is no specific action to be taken at this time
- just to reaffirm, there are no cases of the virus in New Zealand currently
- should the situation change, as we do with other infectious diseases such as measles, mumps and influenza, we will follow our pandemic plan for managing the illness
- for those of you concerned about possible infection, the Ministry of Health has provided practical information on their website which we encourage you to read - [Novel coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) guidance – Ministry of Health website](#)
- included in there is some advice (for travellers) to help reduce the general risk of infection:
 - avoiding very close contact with people showing symptoms
 - frequently washing hands
 - avoiding close contact with sick live farm animals or wild animals
 - practicing cough etiquette (maintain distance, cover coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing, and wash hands).
- the Ministry of Health will continue to update that content, as further information becomes available

Cards

Room 1 would love used / old greeting cards for independent writing. We can use them if they have one blank page. I can cut off pages with writing if necessary. Please send to Room 1. Thank you Barbara Davies.

If anyone can spare 30 – 45 minutes on Thursday morning, we will have a card making session for the Junior classes. This involves making up little blank books of 2 – 3 pages for the children to practice their writing. No skills required! Just come to the office at 9.00am

Term Dates 2020

- Term 1: Monday 27th January – Thursday 9th April (Friday 10th is Good Friday)
- Term 2: Tuesday 28th April – Friday 3rd July (Monday 27th is 'Mondayised' for ANZAC Day)
- Term 3: Monday 20th July – Friday 25th September
- Term 4: Monday 12th October – 10th or 11th December tbc

Kind regards

*Sue Simpson
Principal*

Term Calendar

Term 1 Calendar 2020		
January	27 th	Rangitikei Rover Dental Service at school
February	5 th	School picnic to Kai Iwi Beach. Everyone goes.
	6 th	Waitangi Day Holiday
	7 th	Teacher Only Day – school closed
	11 th	PTA Meeting 7pm
	12 th	Room 8 camp at Kawhatau (3 days)
	17 th -18 th	Room 6 camp at school 2 nights
	18 th	BOT meeting 7.00pm
	19 th – 20 th	Room 7 camp at school 2 nights
	26 th	School Triathlon
March	2 nd - 4 th	3 Way Conferences/Parent Meetings this week for all students
	4 th	Senior Swimming Sports 12.00pm (Makino Aquatic Centre) Years 4 - 8
	6 th	Junior swimming sports 1.30pm (school pool) Years 1 – 3 Swimming finishes for the season. Athletics starts.
	10 th	Cybersafety for Senior classes (NZ Police)
	11 th	Interschool Triathlon
	13 th	'Moveathon' (PTA)
	17 th	PTA AGM 7pm
	24 th	BOT Meeting 7pm
	27 th	Teacher Only Day. School closed.
	30 th	Interschool Swimming Relays/Penhey Cup 5.30pm
	31 st	Year 5 - 6 Rippa Rugby Tournament
April	1 st	Year 7 - 8 Rippa Rugby Tournament
	3 rd	Athletic Sports. All children are involved.
	6 th	Feilding Interschool Athletics
	8 th	Student Council event
	9 th	End of term 1 (Thursday) 10 th April is Good Friday