

Halcombe School



RD 9, FEILDING
PHONE (06) 328 8845 office@halcombe.school.nz
www.halcombe.school.nz

Term 3 Week 4

17th August 2021

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

Kia Ora Tatou,

Well, winter has certainly reminded us that it has a sting in its tail! I hope you are all managing to keep warm together.

Schools all across NZ spend a huge amount of time and money on professional development. I'm not sure how many parents know what it is and why it's important, or what actually occurs at these events, but professional development has a huge effect on what goes on in schools.

Professional Development (PLD for short) for teachers and support staff is about keeping our staff up to date with unknown or new ideas and teaching techniques, and reminding ourselves about what works already. It is also about learning new ways of thinking about learning and relationships. PLD can take the form of courses, or can be led by ourselves over a period of time. There are courses, there are conferences, there is PLD that we do at staff meetings. It's all about making sure that our staff are up-to-date, thinking about professional practices, and ensuring that our pupils have well trained teachers working with them.

Each teacher here has had three years of tertiary training to be a teacher, but our learning should not stop there. We need to continually learn and be challenged about our thinking.

Halcombe School has a tradition of having very good PLD. This ensures our staff are fully up to date and learning new things to *consider* using in our classrooms.

I say the word 'consider' as not all PLD is great and some things can be a fad too. BUT it is important that we are learning about what is happening outside of our school and be challenged by it. If we didn't know about open-plan Modern Learning Environments in other schools and thought about whether it was a good idea or not we couldn't make an informed decision for our kids. It's not and we're not.

We should be up to date and relevant, and we should be made to think about new ideas and resources, otherwise we remain like the ostrich, with its head stuck in the sand. Let's not be Halcombe School ostriches!

Have a great week,
Alastair & the H Team.

Teacher Only Day

The Board of Trustees has approved a Teacher Only Day for **Friday, September 3rd**. School is closed on this day and buses will not be running. Teachers will be attending professional development course this day. We understand that this can be inconvenient for some families and we have tried to give as much notification as possible. This is an important day for our teachers to join with other teachers around Feilding in this course of learning.

Working Bee

Saturday, September 25th. 1.30-4pm. The first stage of the front garden upgrade is underway! A working bee will remove some trees (quite a lot actually!), and chip them. More details will follow as we get confirmation of them, but please keep this date and time in mind to help out if needed.

Casino Royale Fun Night!

As a thank you to everyone's hard work and support over the last year the PTA have organised a nice social evening to gather together and celebrate as a community. We want to thank everyone for their support and have some fun together - a Casino Night in the School Hall on **Friday 10th September**. Doors open 7pm, with the fun starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are limited and can be purchased from the Office. Tickets and prices will go on sale

Book Fair

Many thanks to all the families who supported this event last week. We sold over \$2000 worth of new books and material. This has meant our school library will get a real boost of new material as we select new books from this fundraiser. Thanks again! Your support is much appreciated!

Assembly

We continue whole-school assemblies for the term, and this week Room 4 will host assembly. We start at 2.30pm on Friday in the hall. All are welcome to come and celebrate. Come early to get a park!

Pet Day

Date set: Thursday, 21st Oct

We have received a reminder from the Manawatu Oroua Boys and Girls Agricultural Club that washing lambs for pet day is not allowed. If a lamb has been washed it will be disqualified.

Congrats Jonty!

Jonty is heading off to Auckland shortly to compete in the first NZ Para-duathlon. His team in Feilding have been practicing non-stop (see the pics below). We all wish him well and look forward to seeing how he does.

Scuba Diver Wanted

Are you a scuba diver? Do you know a scuba diver? The Junior Team would love to have a diver visit us as part of our ocean theme this term. We want to know what it is like to go deep underwater and what equipment you need. They would visit classrooms and talk to children and answer their questions. If you can help please email Mrs Mackie, mmackie@halcombe.school.nz.



Daffodil Day
Friday 27 August

GOLD COIN DONATION
all money will be donated to the
Manawatū Cancer Society



AND
SHOW YOUR AWESOMENESS BY DRESSING IN
YELLOW
(no feather boas please)



Music education for children 4 - 13 years

OPEN DAY

Saturday, 4th Sept 9:00am - 11:30am
Palmerston North Intermediate School

cello, choir, clarinet, drums, flute, french horn, guitar,
ukulele, junior flute (fife), keyboard, music basics,
orchestra, recorder, saxophone, trombone, trumpet
and violin.

For more information:
www.saturdaymusic.org.nz
Email: contact@saturdaymusic.org.nz