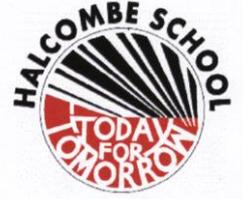


Halcombe School



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Term 4 Week 8

7th December 2021

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

Kia Ora Tatou

End of Year Reports are coming home this Friday! I am sure you will appreciate and enjoy reading over them. I hope you find a suitable time to share them with your child, to recognise their successes, and see what goals they might have for 2022.

The reports include excellent comments and clear indications from teachers on how well your child is doing against expectations and recognising their progress. These reports should be taken in conjunction with all the other information parents get on progress and achievement (3WCs, KIT Books, Seesaw, Termly Exercise Books going home - the best indication of progress). Exercise books are also coming home on Friday too.

Every Day Matters', is a term that is used in schools to indicate the importance of being in school as much as possible to learn. In each report you will see a percentage of your child's attendance at school. This is there to remind us all of how much being in school impacts on a child's success and progress. If a child is not in school often, or has a regular 'away day' (interestingly Mondays and Friday stand out in this respect), their achievement, their organisation, their understanding of what is going on, is impacted. Absences have an effect. The effect is not only on the absentee: it also impacts on group members (slowing down the progress and activity), and on the class (having to take time to instruct an absentee), and on the teacher (they have prepared a course of study for each child. Absences mean this course of work is disrupted).

Fortunately here at Halcombe School we do not have a big problem with non attendance, but there is some: mid-term holidays being one. Outside visits, and family experiences add to a child's experiences and life choices and we are not against this at all. We are against regular and unexplained absences, especially if a child is not doing so well with their academics.

When you receive your child's report, do glance at the absence percentage, and consider any impact that absence may have played in your child's progress this year.

Have a great week.
Alastair & the 'H' Team.

New Teacher News

It is with pleasure we announce the appointment of Vanessa Wasley to the teaching team here next year. Vanessa will take up the teaching reins in Room 7 with a class of senior pupils. Vanessa comes with vast experience in teaching senior pupils and in working in rural schools. Her special interest and strengths in Science, Literacy and EOTC will add to the team here. Congratulations Vanessa and welcome!

Fun Day Friday

On Friday, we will be having a FUN DAY FRIDAY to help celebrate the end of year. Children will take part in a whole lot of crazy activities and will need their togs and a named water pistol if they have one. They should also wear their house colours if possible. (Kauri = red, Matai = yellow, Totara = green and Rimu = blue). This is a day for kids, however **if** you want to call in, you are welcome. Please remember to wear your mask, and don't forget to scan in. The action will start at 9am go through until about 12.30pm.

Christmas Cards

Please don't bring Christmas cards to school, or Christmas lollies. Unfortunately this can be seen as a competition, some children miss out and we find dozens of them in the rubbish at the end of the year! This is really wasteful and unnecessary. We all love each other here at school and we don't need Christmas cards to prove it.

Last Day

School finishes at 12.30 on Wednesday 15th December. Buses will be running from this time.

Swimming Pool News

The pool will be open for the community from 11th January 2022. Keys will be \$40 with a \$10 refund on the return of the key. Keys will be available to purchase from Wednesday 8th December. **If keys are not purchased before the end of the year, they will not then be available again until 31st January 2022.**

