

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

A REMINDER - SCHOOL FINISHES FOR THE YEAR AT 12.30pm TOMORROW. BUSES WILL RUN AT THAT TIME.

Kia Ora Tatou,

We are almost there! I trust you appreciated receiving the End of Year Report for your child. These reports are given a lot of thought and considered an awful lot - there are no cut-and-paste comments made, as we know your child. You know them too, and so the comments, and progress indicators should not have been a revelation, but a confirmation of how well your child has done this year.

I presented to the last Board of Trustees meeting an Achievement Report on reading, writing and mathematics. Once again it highlighted the excellent outcomes for our pupils, and also the learning needs some pupils have. Overall, I am pleased to say to you that our high achievement continues:

- reading: 92% achieving At or Above the curriculum expectation
- writing: 81% achieving At or Above expectation
- maths: 94% achieving At or Above expectation

What is also pleasing is the high level of achievement for our Māori pupils, and for both genders. All this takes a high level of focus and support, and I thank the teachers, for their craft and effort, and our parents who prepare and support so well.

We say that Halcombe parents get good information about their child's achievement and progress. We send home their books each term, we have our Three-Way Conferences, and we have our reporting too. The New Zealand Curriculum is changing, and focussing on Progress Outcomes. This is probably a good idea, to highlight the wide bands of achievement that pupils go through as they learn, but it will also challenge the way we report to parents about their child. Next year I am calling for a group of parents to help me re-design the way we report, so that we continue to let parents know, honestly, how their child is doing, against clear expectations. If you can help, I'd be pleased to have you.

Many thanks to our AMAZING community, for all your support this year: in classes, on trips, camps, fundraising, and coming to events. Halcombe ROCKS. Have a great Chirstams with your whānau and loved ones. See you all on 30 January 2023.

Have a great week and a great holiday time, Be safe!
Alastair & the 'H' Team.

Senior Prizegiving - TONIGHT

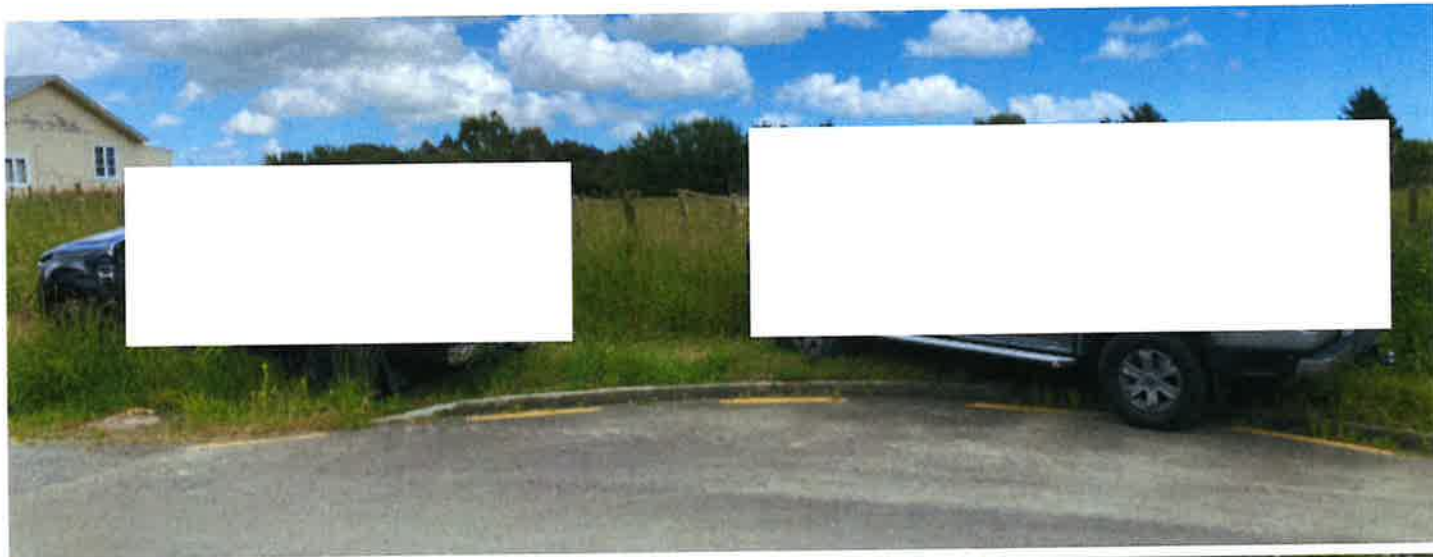
- Doors open at 6.30pm. Prizegiving starts at 7pm sharp. Will finish at approx. 9pm.
- For the students in Rooms 5/6/7/8.
- Students need to be seated by 6.55pm. Leave yourself plenty of time to get sorted - school is a busy place at that time.
- Parents and whānau are welcome to attend, though please be mindful of how many people you bring. Space is limited, and priority needs to be given to our Year 8 students.
- This event is not suitable for toddlers, as they stray from parents, or provide a distraction. Please be mindful that the focus is on our students.
- **We are hoping to be able to livestream this event though our Facebook page.**

2023 Classes:

Thank you to those who have been in contact with us to help us consider the best placement of their child. To the rest of you, thank you for the high level of trust you have in us doing our job well. We announce classes at the beginning of the year, via email. This allows us to make any necessary changes over the Christmas holiday period.

Parking

We know we have a shortage of parking, especially at events where lots of people are involved - prizegiving and Pet Day are two examples. The Board of Trustees is working on options to help ease the pressure. However, we would prefer people not to park as shown in the photos below (taken at the junior prizegiving yesterday). At the senior prizegiving tonight, extra parking is available on the front and back netball courts, and we're going to open the back field too. If you're the first one through the gate, please open it. If you're the last one back through, please close it. We appreciate your support with this.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Manawatu Gymsports

Manawatu GymSports has a super holiday programme running, this is a great way to try out our club if you are keen to enrol next year, or just book in to have some fun! Head to www.manawatugymsports.co.nz