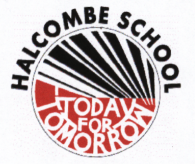


# Halcombe School



Term Two - Week 10

27 June 2023

Kia Ora Tatou!

One of the big changes in any school happens around changes in staffing. We have eighteen staff members - teachers, release teachers, and support staff who form one amazing team. We are so fortunate to have great people, who work hard and have the best interests of our students at heart. Plus, they are highly trained practitioners. I am so fortunate to be the leader of such a team.

Unfortunately, we have to say goodbye to people, as they find new challenges and adventures. Rebecca Hughes, who has been on maternity leave over the past six months, is on such an adventure. Her daughter, Madison is growing, and fast becoming the next Einstein under her care. Rebecca has resigned and we are sad to see her go, BUT very proud of her focus on her growing family. We are grateful for the time we had Rebecca on our team and we learned so much from her.

That leaves some good news: Raylene Johnston has been appointed permanently to our teaching team. Raylene has been doing a fantastic job teaching the students in Room 3, and we are very fortunate to have her join our team. Raylene brings new skills and interests to our school, and enjoys the community, staff and her kids so much. She is a delight to see in action in the classroom. Please feel free to call in to see Ray to congratulate her.

With holidays around the corner we wish you all a wonderful time of being together and getting these Halcombe kids to do all the chores you have saved up!

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

## **Parent Information Evening - Basic Facts - Tuesday 18 July**

As you know, instant recall of basic facts is one of the most important skills our students need to have in order to be successful in maths. The teaching and maintenance of basic facts is an integral part of our maths programme, right from when students start school. We have a test that we give to students in Year 4 and above, and by the end of Year 6, we expect students to be scoring 90% or above in all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). This test was administered last week, and results shared in KIT Books. We work incredibly hard to maintain our high levels of student achievement, and it's important to continue to support our students to achieve to the best of their ability. We consider this to be a team effort, between the child, parents and teachers. In Week 1 of next term, at 7pm on **Tuesday 18 July**, we are hosting a parent information evening at school. The focus of this evening is to give parents practical ideas of how they can support their child to learn their basic facts at home. It will be fun, hands-on, and everyone will be given a little goodie bag to take away. If you'd like to come along, please fill in the slip below and return it to the office by the end of this week.

## **Mid-Year 3-Way Conferences 24 - 26 July**

We have two formal times each year for parents to come and meet with their child's teacher at 3-Way Conferences. 3WCs are set for week two next term - July 24th to 26th. Children attend these conferences too. These are times to hear about your child's learning goals for the next half of the year, and to see what progress has been made so far. They are compulsory for all parents and caregivers to come to, as they are important.

You can book your interviews online at <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/>.

Use the code **uvu5w** to find **Halcombe School 3-Way Conferences**.

Please note, you CAN book a back-to-back times, BUT you will need to move quickly between classes in order to keep to the timetable. We are closing early on Monday 24th July, at 12.30pm, in order to ensure we can fit everyone in easily.

### **Senior Exercise Books**

The students in Rooms 5-8 will be bringing their exercise books home on Friday. By now, you'll be very familiar with this routine. This is an excellent opportunity to have a good look through your child's books before our 3WCs early next term. Our teachers look forward to reading through the feedback you give your child.

### **Term 3 Assemblies and School Production Update**

There will be no Friday afternoon assemblies next term. We are in the early stages of preparing for a school production (look out for more information about this early next term), and need to use Friday afternoons for singing practice!

### **Dress Up Day**

We are VERY excited about being able to dress up for school tomorrow, and look forward to receiving your generous donations of goods for Manchester House. Thanks to those who have bought things to us already. The collection box will be set up outside the LIBRARY tomorrow morning, so items can be dropped off there. Thank you.

### **Senior Camp Deposits**

A friendly reminder that camp deposits are due on Friday - for the students in Rooms 5, 6, 7 and 8. Thanks to those who have paid already.

### **Sports Updates:**

- There is netball practice as normal for our Y3-6 teams tomorrow. There is a game for these teams on Saturday (game details in KIT Books).
- There is NO netball practice for our Y7-8 teams on Thursday.
- There is NO Y7-8 hockey on Friday night.
- Our PE focus for the first half of next term will be on gymnastics. Each class will have two sessions a week. Students will need suitable PE gear - shorts, tights or trackpants, and a t-shirt. On Friday 18 August, we will have a gymnastics display in the hall for parents to attend.

### **Te Tikanga Marae Visit:**

The senior school had a lovely time at Te Tikanga marae last Thursday. We are so grateful to the Pikiahu whānau for their warm welcome and graciousness towards us. It was a time of welcome, learning and a rich experience that we had. We look forward to more adventures, relationships and special times at Te Tikanga. Many thanks to the parents who came with us.

### **Term-Time Holidays!**

We are becoming increasingly concerned at children being taken out of school for short-term 'fun' holidays. Schooling is a compulsory activity and we take our jobs here to set up teaching and learning programmes seriously. Taking children out of school to go on roller-coasters and flume rides are not justified absences. The Ministry of Education and our Board of Trustees receive reports on absences, and we need to ensure that absences are justified, are kept to a minimum, and we want to ensure that all pupils are achieving well here. Please make sure you talk to your child's teacher, or the principal, before booking these sort of trips.



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## **PARENT INFORMATION EVENTING - BASIC FACTS - TUESDAY 18 JULY**

Yes, I will be attending this event.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Senior Classes at Te Tikanga Marae

**HALCOMBE SCHOOL**  
**SHOW THE LOVE FOR**  
**YOUR HOUSE DAY!**

**Wednesday 28 June**

**COME TO SCHOOL WEARING YOUR HOUSE COLOURS**  
**TO SHOW HOW AWESOME YOUR HOUSE IS!**  
**WEAR THE CRAZIEST, WACKIEST, MADDEST,**  
**BADDEST COSTUME YOU CAN FIND!**

We know some people are doing it tough at the moment, and the Manchester House Food Bank is busier than ever. Team Halcombe can help! This is an awesome opportunity to show manaakitanga (kindness, support, generosity).

On Wednesday 28 June, we encourage our students to bring along an item to donate to the Food Bank. They are desperate for: toiletries (not toothbrushes), items for school lunches (eg. muesli bars) and cans of food.

Thank you for your support.