

Kia Ora Tatou!

As part of our mathematics professional development, we are going over our teaching programmes, resources and the way we teach maths here. Overall our pupils achieve highly - at the end of last year we reported to the Board that *94% of all pupils achieved at or above* the expected levels. Being involved in professional development is not about changing everything we do, but it is about keeping our teachers up to date and reflective on what works well and how we can do even better. We have a strong sense of urgency here to see all our pupils do well, and we know you, as parents, do too.

One thing that accounts for a great deal of continued success and confidence in maths is learning basic facts. This changes across the school according to levels, but includes addition and subtraction facts, as well as the good ol' times tables. Knowing basic facts automatically ensures that children attempt problems, see possible solutions more quickly, and have more success, than those who don't know them well. We are having a focus on basic facts, and if your child is in need of a boost that you can help with, your child's teacher will be in touch with you via the KIT Book. Basic facts are important and they have an impact on your child's success and confidence in maths. As well as practicing at home, it is always good if you can find practical ways to get your child to think about using basic facts in the world.

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

PTA Meeting - NEW DATE

Our next meeting is tomorrow night at 7pm in the staffroom. All are welcome. Please bring along your awesome fundraising ideas to support our students and the plans we have for the school this year!

Bagpipes

There may be an opportunity for a group of students to learn to play the bagpipes next term. Lessons will be at lunchtime, at no cost. If this is something your child would like to be involved in, please let us know by the end of the week. This is open to Year 5-8 students

BOT News

The Board of Trustees met on 3 May and discussed the following items:

- We are continuing to work through and explore options to try and mitigate the impact the Ministry of Education bus policy has had on affected families.
- The Board is currently looking for a teacher for Room 6 while Charlotte is on maternity leave. If you know of anyone who would be amazing, please encourage them to apply.
- Property - the playground markings and car park painting have been completed, and roofing repairs continue over the weekends. A drainage project will be the next project underway.
- The new Reading Recovery program is getting some incredible results!



Futures Girls - 9 & 6

Date: Sunday 21st May

Time: 9.30am

Where: Hawkestone Golf Club

This is a girls only event, ages 5 to 18, where you will have an introduction to Golf, play 9 or 6 holes. No experience necessary, equipment will be available to use.

For more information or to register please contact:
Janette Smith - janette.smith@golfrnz.org



HALCOMBE SCHOOL

DISCO

FRIDAY 19 MAY

JUNIOR DISCO: 5.30-6.45PM
R1, 2, 3, & 4

SENIOR DISCO: 7-8.30PM
R5, 6, 7 & 8

HALCOMBE SCHOOL HALL

TICKETS: \$5 - ON SALE NOW!

Buy your ticket from outside R8 before school one day this week - cash only, no online sales.

Included in the ticket price: drink (fizzy or water), and a bag of lollies.