

Halcombe School



Term Two - Week 5

23 May 2023

Kia Ora Tatou!

I don't know if you have seen the news items about Artificial Intelligence or not. There is a free AI used freely, called ChatGPT, that can be given tasks by humans to research, write, respond and create written passages. It is a pretty awe-inspiring AI.

Amongst the news items about it, is a fear that AI will take over the world, put people out of work, in danger, and enslave all of us somehow. I'm not so sure...

Throughout world history we have created machines to take on some of the tasks we find hard, laborious and to make our lives easier. I think every job we now do uses machines of some sort.

AI has some pretty impressive abilities and implications for schools and learning - we might one day be able to fully have individualised learning! And who wouldn't want their own personal assistant at their beck and call?

As with all machines AI can be abused, and it will need parameters around it in order to ensure it isn't used for bad purposes. Humans will have to think more deeply about scams, and whether that Nigerian Prince is real or not.

AI has the potential to change so much of how we do things in the future - it's up to us how we embrace it or not.

Have a great week,

Alastair & the 'H' Team.

PTA Meeting - UPDATE

The PTA met last week to go over plans for future fundraising. There was a good turn out of people and good ideas shared that are being investigated. One imminent fundraiser is the annual Lamb Fattening Scheme, organised by Rhys, Richie, Stu and Chris. If anyone is interested in raising some lambs for this please get in touch with them.

All fundraising goes towards your children. A wish list of items for the PTA to buy is put together by the teachers each year. The PTA spends money on so many items for classes and the school, and we are really lucky to receive this support.

Immunisation Register Request

School keeps a register here of the immunisation of our pupils. This is for our records only, and means that if we have an outbreak of a disease we can notify parents of unimmunised children. This helps to protect our people. Paula is sending a note home via KIT books to families for whom we do not yet know the status. If you receive one, please check and send this back to Paula in the office as soon as possible.

Parent Online Safety Evening

The local school cluster has organised an evening for parents interested in child online safety. It is being held at North Street School on Wednesday 7 June, from 7-9pm. It is being led by Rob Cope, a well-known online safety advocate, and well regarded in New Zealand. It is free to attend, BUT see the flyer in this newsletter for more information.

Proposed Teacher Strike Action

Like other professions, the teacher negotiations for pay and conditions continue. There has been a level of frustration about how negotiations have not progressed better. Union teachers voted last week for a whole-day strike on Wednesday 31st May. However, recent meetings with the Ministry of Education have seen some light and negotiations are continuing, and the strike *may be called off*. We will know for certain on Sunday whether or not the strike will go ahead. We will let you know as soon as possible.

Chocolate Fundraiser

A message for the students in Rooms 5-8 who have been selling chocolate: a reminder all money is due on Friday 16 June. Any unsold bars need to be returned in perfect condition. We still have a few boxes left, so please contact Paula if you'd like to sell more.

COMMUNITY NEWS

First Aid Course

A first aid course for parents and whānau of young children is being held on the 1st of June at the Halcombe Hall, 9:30-11.30am. The cost is \$6 per family. Run by Meditrain along with MRSS and Halcombe Playcentre. To reserve your place call Emma on 027 700 1409.

Halcombe Gives Cancer The Boot

Tickets are still available for Pink Lippy and Gumboots event at the Halcombe Pub this Saturday 7pm. To secure a ticket please get in touch with Bex or Hols or email pinklippyyandgumboots@gmail.com. Amazing auction items are up for grabs and it's a guaranteed great night for a good cause.



Te Kāhui Ako ō Kawakawa presents:

Parents Cyber Safety Evening

With Rob Cope - Author, Parent & Filmmaker of the 2020 documentary: 'Our Kids Online'

- Understand the harms our kids are facing online in relation to cyber bullying, predators, pornography, gaming, social media and the 24/7 switched on effect on the developing brain.
- Learn practical solutions to keep your children safer online.
- Get advice on healthy ways to approach these tricky topics.
- Learn what to do when your child has been exposed to something harmful.

Watch the promotional video here - [Our Kids Online Parent Evening](#).

WEDNESDAY 7TH JUNE 2023 | 7PM - 9PM

NORTH STREET SCHOOL
52 NORTH STREET, FEILDING

To find out more about Rob's work
visit www.ourkidsonline.info

A vertical poster for the Intermediate Academy Manawatu Water Polo team. The top half features a photo of a player in a pool. The middle section has the text 'Intermediate Academy' and 'Manawatu Water Polo Club'. Below that is a circular logo with a shark and the text 'MANAWATU WATER POLO'. The bottom section contains smaller text and another photo of a player.

Are you over 15 to play? Or are you living in the area? Would you like to play on weekends? Have you ever played water polo? If you are interested in playing water polo, please contact the club at 525 for the team. Email: waterpolo@intermediate.ac.nz

For more information, please contact Kaiti at 027 440 0225 or check out our Facebook page. Join us at www.facebook.com/intermediate.waterpolo