

Halcombe School



Term Three - Week 3

1 August 2023

Kia Ora Tatou!

Thank you all for your attendance at our recent 3-Way Conferences. All parents I spoke to afterwards were complimentary of the way their children were such a big part of the conversation and the value of the information they were getting about their child's progress so far. From our teacher's point of view, these are good times to meet, build relationships further, and make plans with parents to support our students. Although compulsory, we are grateful for you coming and making the time to attend. You'll see some amazing feedback from our teaching team below.

We operate on a 'no-surprises' rule at Halcombe School, and this requires good, open dialogue between school and home. These conferences are one of the ways we do this. Where there are children who struggle, we let you know what you can do to help, and we make plans to see them progress. We are well aware that the weeks are zooming by this year, and our teachers want to ensure our kids succeed and we work hard to see them achieve. We know that you do too. Thanks!

As you can see below, our Peter Pan production is ramping up. Practices have been occurring for some time and now we are in serious-mode: children with parts need to have these learnt, costumes are being gathered, whole-school practices are occurring. We will need some help later on too, as we set up the stage, the lights and sound. I am sure we will be shoulder-tapping some of you to come and help. In the meantime, if you are an avid 'Arts' person, you might like to come in and offer help to your child's teacher, so let us know you are keen.

Although a production is a big event, it is yet another way for our kids to shine, and we will all be very proud of them I am sure.

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

Peter Pan Production

Practices are well underway for our production of Peter Pan. It has been a long time since Halcombe School last had a production, so it's definitely something we're all looking forward to. There will be singing and dancing and acting and narrating and fancy lights and a full set and props and music and of course, the mean and nasty Captain Hook! Every student in our school is involved. As you can see from the information poster below, we are performing the production on three occasions, and all students are expected to attend all performances. There will be lots more information to come over the next few weeks.

Notices will come home in KIT Books about the costumes each child will need for the Peter Pan production. DIY costumes always look fantastic so please do not rush out and specifically purchase anything. Have a look at home at what you could repurpose and upcycle to create costumes when you receive your notice from your child's teacher. If anyone has pirate themed costumes, plastic swords or fairy wings we could borrow, it would be most appreciated (please name them so they can be returned). We are also on the lookout for a crocodile costume! Thank you - Vanessa.

Sports Exchanges

Huntermville - DONE

South Makirikiri - TOMORROW (check KIT Books for details)

11.30am - Y7-8 netball, Y7-8 football, Y5-6 rugby

12.30pm - Y5-6 netball, Y5-6 football, Y7-8 rugby

Newbury - NEXT TUESDAY

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU'RE COMING ALONG TO SCHOOL TO WATCH THE GAMES, PLEASE DON'T PARK ON ANY YELLOW LINES, GRASS AREAS OR ON THE NEIGHBOUR'S DRIVEWAY. THANK YOU.

Water Update

You'll be pleased to know that we have had water brought into our big tanks to supply the drinking fountains again. This means we have reopened the fountains. We would like you all to keep sending your child along with a full water bottle to keep the usage here low. Thanks!

Bus Note - Supervision At Bus Stops

A reminder to all bus parents that it is your responsibility to supervise your children prior to the children boarding the school bus in the morning and once they get off the school bus in the afternoon. This is especially pertinent during the winter months as visibility is poorer due to the time of year and the weather conditions. School buses are not able to wait at bus stops for children to be collected so it is important that the caregiver is on time.

Sports Teams

We have many sports teams at our school, and the vast majority of students are representing our school in at least one sport - six netball teams, one table tennis team, one basketball team, and 12 hockey teams. Most of these sports are due to finish in the next three weeks. This is a plea to parents - please honour the commitment you made when your child signed up to play. We are struggling to field teams, and can't afford for players to miss games (things are especially tight in our Y5-6 netball teams). Teams can absorb one or two absences due to sickness or injury, but beyond that, it gets really hard. Thank you for your support.

Three Way Conferences - Feedback from Teachers

Our teachers enjoyed the recent 3WCs as much as you did. Here's some of their feedback:

Fiona - NE-Year 1 - A big bonus for me was meeting a number of parents for the first time. All Room 1 learners felt proud of their progress and looking through their books is an easy way to see how much they have learnt in such a short time. Their knowledge of how to correctly form letters and growing tidiness is very evident in their work. It is an unusual position for the learners to find themselves, sharing in front of their parents and myself, but all seemed to enjoy themselves and were able to talk about their learning.

Debbie - Year 1-2 - The 3WC's were a great way to share and celebrate the students' learning with whānau. We were able to show progress from what they were working at the beginning of the year to now, especially in writing. It was great to share with parents next steps and what they are doing now. The students enjoyed showing their parents what they had learnt. All my parents were proud of them as I am.

Ray - Year 2-3 - I really enjoyed listening to the students celebrate their learning with their whānau. They were proud to share their progress and had thought carefully about the goals they had set for themselves. All the parents were very proud and supportive of their children and enjoyed listening to their journey.

Hannah - Year 3-4 - My 3WCs were a great opportunity for students to share their learning and goals. We could reflect on the progress that they had made since the start of the year and this made the students and whānau really proud. We then had conversations about what they can be doing to help at home to support their child's learning. It was also nice to touch base with whānau I don't see often, and check in with how their child is doing.

Aimee - Year 4-5 - These were a great way to catch up with whānau in the middle of the year and have the students share their learning goals, work they've done and are proud of, and to think about what's next. It was positive, insightful, and good to have conversations to ensure all of us are on the same page.

Charlotte - Year 5-6 - 3WC's are a great way to celebrate the learning the children have been doing in the classroom. The students always love sharing things they are proud of. It is also a great time to talk about goals moving forward. It was awesome to see parents engaged with wanting their child to be the very best they can.

Vanessa - Year 6-7 - The 3WCs were a wonderful way for the students to share their learning and goals with their whānau and for me to discuss where their child is at. It is always positive to celebrate the learning within the classroom and to witness how proud each and every child is of their achievements at school. It is always lovely to catch-up with parents and to listen to their thoughts and opinions about how their child is progressing. 3WCs demonstrate how well supported each child is here at Halcombe School.

Di - Year 8 - My 3WCs were an awesomely positive experience. I appreciated the fact that even though their children only have 17 weeks left at our school, parents were totally supportive of the 'we won't be slacking off' message. When we talked about things we still wanted to achieve, and areas for improvement, parents were on board, and without exception, strongly urged their children to push hard to be better. For many, this was their final ever 3WC at Halcombe School, so there were some reflective moments, which was pretty special.

**HALCOMBE SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENTS
A SCHOOL PRODUCTION OF
PETER PAN**

Wednesday 20 September - 12pm
Wednesday 20 September - 6pm
Thursday 21 September - 6pm

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON



Congratulations to Isaac, who assisted with the coin toss in the USA vs Netherlands football match last week. Go Isaac!