

# Halcombe School



Term Three - Week 7

29 August 2023

Kia Ora Tatou!

We have come off the back of some pretty amazing opportunities for our students: tournaments, sports exchanges, chess champs, science trips, a terrific Mathex outcome, a wonderful Jump Jam event, and at the end of this term, we have our production of Peter Pan! We are a busy place and we are offering many opportunities for all our students to experience the wide curriculum and to enjoy what they are passionate about.

None of this occurs without a huge amount of work. Normally I give parents a big pat on the back, but today I really do want to highlight the hard-working team we have here. Our teachers and support staff are a terrific team! I am sure you feel the same way. Not all principals enjoy the can-do, get stuck in, number-eight-wire go-getters that I have here.

One of the jobs of a full-primary school like ours is not only to teach the 3-Rs well, but to make sure our students experience the full spectrum of the curriculum as much as possible. Then and only then, can kids go on to decide what they are really interested in and specialise in at high-school. If they don't ever experience a production, how will they ever know if they are good at it? If they don't ever play a team game how will they ever recognise its benefits and become a life-long active person?

Here at Halcombe School I think we do an excellent job of making sure we offer many opportunities to experience and shine. My staff are all about the kids and working as a team, and I am sure you will join me in congratulating them!

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

## **2024 Planning**

We are starting to do initial plans for classes for 2024 already! We start by making sure we know what our current students are doing next year. We try to balance our roll between 190-205, and this enables us to have the staff we have and the many opportunities this brings. We need to know if you are likely to be moving away from Halcombe, and if this might affect your child's attendance at our school. Please either email, or phone the office to let us know now.

## **Student Teacher**

A warm welcome to Miss Gibson, who will be working alongside the gorgeous kids in Room 3 for the next seven weeks. We hope you enjoy your time at our school Elizabeth!

## **KIT Books:**

The main way we communicate with parents is via the KIT Books. This system works really well. It provides great clarity between home and school, and is designed to make sure everyone is in the loop. However, it is timely to give a few reminders:

- If your child/ren is going to be away from school or there is a message about bus use or other administration things, the KIT Book note must be shown to Paula. Please make sure you write this information in the KIT Book for your child.
- Parents need to sign notes in KIT Books so we know they've been read.
- It is not appropriate for parents to email teachers. If there is a sensitive issue that needs to be discussed, and it's not appropriate to write about this in the KIT Book, a short note asking the teacher to give you a call is a good idea. Email is a poor form of communication and conversations in person or on the phone always work out better.

These may seem old-school, but they are tried and true ways of communicating clearly and quickly. Thank you for your support.

## **Production Update:**

Only four weeks to go!

Tickets will be on sale from next Wednesday - see the next newsletter for details.

- Costumes - these need to be brought to school now, so that we have time to get everything sorted. Each student has a note in their KIT Book with details about what they need. If you are having trouble sourcing any gear, please let us know.
- Tickets will be going on sale on Wednesday of next week. Please check out next week's newsletter for details.

## **Attendance**

Over the next week, you'll notice a note in your child's KIT Books. This will state two pieces of information: 1) your child's attendance so far this year as a percentage, and 2) what this equates to in school days. This is for your interest and information. Attendance data will also be making a reappearance on our end of year reports.

### **Netball Update**

- Halcombe A and Halcombe B - all uniforms should be returned now.
- Halcombe Black and Halcombe Blue have finished their season. By now Paula should know if your child is on the bus tomorrow. Please keep uniforms at home to wear to prize giving in a couple of weeks.
- Halcombe Red and Halcombe White - two more practices and two more games to go!

### **AIMS Games**

Next week, we have 10 athletes travelling to Tauranga to compete in the AIMS Games. This event attracts many Year 7-8 students from all over the country, and is a chance to compete against the best of the best. Good luck to Maggie L (cross country), Sean and Harry (gymnastics), Jamie (tennis), Jonty (para swimming) and Maggie T, Sophie, Ben, Toby and Georgia (swimming). Max and Blake were originally part of this team too, but had to withdraw due to injury. Go well team!

### **Touch Rugby**

Once again, we have HEAPS of kids who have signed up to play touch - 119. Team lists will be released as soon as people have made the payment - 35 people still to pay. Thanks.

### **Jump Jam**

Congratulations to our fabulous Jump Jam team who placed third in the competition on Saturday night. They moved and grooved, and produced a performance to be proud of. Well done Halcombe Hipsters! Thank you to Ray and Hannah for whipping this team into shape.



Check out Mrs Otter and Mrs Barnes (TAs) - in their element making props and costumes for our production!



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