

Kia Ora Tatou!

Thank you to all families for your commitment to your children by attending the Three-Way Conferences. The information you gained from these will help you think about your child's progress, how you can help at home, and also let the teacher know more about your child too. We greatly appreciate your time in coming along.

I want to give a BIG shout-out to the Halcombe School PTA - a dynamic and motivated group of parents. This group has worked hard every year, and are always focussed on one question: how can we help as many kids as possible.

At their last meeting they agreed to spend just over \$10,000 on your children! That is incredible support on behalf of all parents and teachers - class resources, buses, camps, equipment and games were all on the list.

Over the year there are three major fundraisers: Moveathon in late March, Lamb Fattening Scheme in the middle, and the Quiz night in September. As well as this the PTA helps support many community events with their food, and pastoral care of families in need of support.

Future projects will involve supporting the new build, and providing devices in classes. What an awesome group.

This PTA is one of the things that makes Halcombe School such a great place for students and families. I trust that when they come knocking on the door for help, you will be willing to play your part in supporting them too.

Have a great week!

Alastair & the 'H' Team.

Senior Swimming Sports - TOMORROW

- The Senior Swimming Sports will be held at the Makino Pool tomorrow, starting at 12.10pm and finishing by 2.40pm.
- These sports are for children in Rooms 5 - 8.
- Transport will be by bus to and from the pool, leaving school at 11.35am. There is no charge.
- All students will return to school after the swimming sports.
- Children must take their togs, two towels, sunhat, plenty of warm clothes, snacks and a drink of water.
- There is no 'grandstand' for parents to watch from. You might like to take your own chair/seat. Parents will be seated on the diving pool side, or at the concrete wall/shallow end of the pool.
- The first event is the Barnett Cup (fastest 50m freestyler).
- Please note that the senior boys championship events will be operating under a handicap system this year. Calculations will need to be made at the end of races to determine final placings.
- Please check the school Facebook page for cancellation information. A decision will be made by 11am.

Junior Swimming Sports - FRIDAY

The Junior Swimming Sports will be held at school on Friday, starting at 1.30pm and finishing by 2.50pm. These sports are for children in Rooms 1 - 4. Parents are welcome to attend.

Athletics

Phew, our swimming programme is nearly over! Our classes haven't missed a day of swimming this term, and our pool has been used for 90% of our lunchtimes too. We will be moving straight into athletics, and have a full and busy schedule of events planned. Time to start practicing the high jump and long jump in the backyard.

Sickness Is Around

Just a reminder to all about current illnesses:

Measles is in NZ and is preventable - follow NZ Health advice and have the two doses of the MMR vaccine;

Strep Throat - this is making the rounds here right now. Please get throat infections seen by a medical professional, as it can lead to major health implications if left untreated.

Learn Every Day

Part of our school Vision is for our pupils to be lifelong learners. The same should happen for us adults too. At the end of the day, why not tell your child what you learned today.

Today I learned there is an elephant buried in Ohakune, and its name was Mollie. Look it up!

New Build Update

We have previously shared plans that are being put together for an additional add-on to buildings in our school. Although some school building programmes have been cut, ours is on track to be started at some point this year. Some of our greatest needs here are around space for teachers and support staff to prepare, plan and collaborate, plus the way that resources are spread across the school. As well as this, the creation of junior and middle school breakout spaces for small groups of children to learn in is needed.

Draft plans are in the foyer for you to come and view the next time you are in the office. Please feel free to view and ask questions. This is an exciting project to get behind.

