

Kia Ora Tatou,

There are more frosty mornings and crisp days ahead - it's great to see the changing seasons in action. We hope you all had a very good, restful break and enjoyed making memories with your children. I know I did.

We had some pupils compete in the Agri-Kids national competition in the holidays and they did very well. We are proud of all our pupils for the effort and perseverance they display, but also their love of being and interacting with other people and enjoying life. It is such an important thing for any community to provide awesome opportunities for children.

This term sees some really wonderful learning in classes (think Olympics, and Space), and some very good opportunities for regular interaction with other schools too (think Interschool Sports).

One of the highlights for all our community will be the bi-annual Quiz Night (Friday 6th September). It is a great night out, with fun, connection and much-needed fundraising too. I look forward to seeing you all there with your friends and colleagues.

Enjoy the settled weather while it lasts,

Alastair & the 'H' Team.

Staff Update

Most of you will know that our Room 6 teacher, Nicki, was injured in our staff vs students nukumball game at the end of last term. An injured achilles tendon is no laughing matter, and we can all appreciate the need for good rehab. We appreciate the fact that Nicki will continue teaching in Room 6 as she recovers. Nicki will continue to do the core morning learning of literacy and maths. We also are grateful to Barb Bowling for coming in the afternoons to teach this class until Nicki is able to manage a full day workload. Until then Nicki is the 'Wheeliest' Teacher in the hood!

Mid-Year 3-Way Conferences - 5-7 August (Week 3)

We have two formal times each year for parents to come and meet with their child's teacher at 3-Way Conferences. 3WCs are set for Week 3, 5-7 August. Children attend these conferences too. These are times to hear about your child's learning goals for the next half of the year, and to see what progress has been made so far. They are compulsory for all parents and caregivers to come to, as they are important times of sharing progress.

- You can book your interviews online at <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/zvft>
- OR use this QR code to take you straight there.
- If you have a child that plays netball or hockey on a Monday night, be mindful of the time you book for your conference.



Please note: we are closing early at 12.30pm on Monday 5 August

The bus will run at this time.

***If you have an interview time between 1pm and 3pm,
we can supervise your child at school to wait for your early interview.***

Term 3 Calendar

The calendar is filling up for next term already. Please keep up to date with what's on our calendar, which can be accessed through our school website. The calendar is updated regularly.

Attendance

'Every Day Matters' - we are concerned at what we see is a rising attendance issue here, with some pupils missing a day or more each week. Last term each family was given their child's attendance data for the year so far. You should be concerned and think about your child's absence if they are getting anything below 90%. Although we make allowances for sickness and important family events, we all need to remember that the achievement and progress of each child is dependent on them being in school. Each lesson and each day matters.

Assemblies

Our Friday assemblies continue this term. These are held every Friday afternoon, and start at 2.30pm sharp. Classes take turns to host the assembly, starting with Room 7 this week. Parents and whānau are welcome to attend. Our carpark is usually really full on Friday afternoons, so please be mindful of where you're parking if you don't get one in the carpark. Thank you.

Agri Kids - National Final Update

Our two Agri Kids teams had an awesome time representing our school and region at the Young Farmer of the Year National Finals in Hamilton during the holidays. They were tested on all things farming, and were up against some super slick teams from all around the country. The kids all learned a lot and have been inspired to continue their agricultural studies. Halcombe Red placed 7th and Halcombe Black placed 14th. The Taranaki Manawatū team were crowned winners of the Region-Off. This is a really cool achievement because the kids did a LOT of work in their own time to earn points for this. FMG will donate \$5,000 to our rescue helicopter and all members of the team will receive a cash prize. Thank you to all those who voted for our team.

HALCOMBE SCHOOL QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

Planning is well underway for our world famous quiz night, coming up on Friday 6 September. This is a fundraising event, raising money for school resources. Any event like this relies on the support of our whānau, and we're hoping each family will be able to support us. There is a lot more detail to come soon, but in the meantime, here is what you need to know:

- It's not time to register yet, but you might want to start rounding up a team of up to six (smart) people. Get a babysitter booked, and start studying!
- There will be a bottle auction at the quiz. **We'd like each family to donate a bottle** - it could be a bottle of wine, beer, a fancy bottle of gin (we're after about ten 'top shelf' items), a bottle of soy sauce, olive oil, or coke - anything! Bottles can be taken to the office.
- We are asking **each family to donate an item or two** to contribute to a grocery raffle (dried goods only). A box of weetbix, a tube of toothpaste, a tin of baked beans, a box of chocolates, a bag of rice - anything! Grocery items can be taken to the office.
- We're also wanting a few special items that can be raffled off too. Do you have a business who may be able to support us? Do you have a neighbour who could help? Could you donate something for a 'pamper pack', a 'man box' or games, puzzles or books? We'd love to hear from you. Donated items can be taken to the office. Please note, we're after new items, rather than preloved stuff. We have one fantastic item on the list already - a taxidermy mount from Ruahine Taxidermy worth \$2,500 (thanks Jase and Rach!)

Senior Technology

Our Year 7-8 students are in the middle of this annual learning highlight. They will continue to participate in a series of technology based activities over the next ten weeks! They will be participating in woodwork, cooking, knitting, clay and robotics.

Scholastic Book Club

The latest catalogues are out now. You have the option of ordering online directly from Scholastic via their LOOP website or pay cash at the office. See the catalogue for order forms and full details. Orders close 2 August.

Netball Match

Our top two netball teams (Halcombe A and Halcombe Boys) are in the same grade in the Manawatū Intermediate Netball Competition, and are due to face each other on Monday 29 July. We have decided to play this match at school. Anyone is welcome to come along and watch, and this is a great opportunity for our younger players in particular, to watch the big guns in action. Kick off is 3.45pm.

Sport

We have a very busy few weeks ahead on the sporting calendar:

CLASS PE

- Our focus will be on gymnastics for the first half of the term. All students need to wear suitable clothes for this: shorts or tights and t shirt.
- Our dance programme will begin in Week 6.

NETBALL

- Practices continue on Wednesdays for our Y3-6 players, with the final practice being held on 14 August (White) and 21 August (Red and Black).
- The final game for Halcombe White will be 17 August.
- The final game for Halcombe Red and Black will be 24 August.
- Practices continue on Thursdays for A and B teams, with the final practice being held on 22 August.
- The final game for our Y7-8 teams will be 26 August.
- There is an extra netball tournament being held on 14 August - the students involved will receive information about this next week.

HOCKEY

- Uniforms will be given to our Y1-6 hockey players tomorrow.
- The first game for our Y1-6 teams is 29 July (information coming tomorrow too).
- Practices continue on Wednesdays for our Y7-8 players, with the final practice being held on 14 August.
- An updated draw is being sent home today.
- The final game for our Y7-8 teams will be 16 August.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

We have four winter sports exchanges lined up, and a notice with all the relevant information is in KIT Books today.

- South Makirikiri (away) - 1 August.
- Colyton (home) - 7 August.
- Newbury (home) - 13 August.
- Hunterville (home) - 21 August.

OTHER

- We have eight students competing in the Police Physical Competency Test on Friday - good luck!
- Table Tennis continues on Thursdays for our Y7-8 team. The final games will be played on 5 September.
- A team of six students will be attending the AIMS Games in Tauranga later this term.
- There is a Ki O Rahi tournament for Y5-6 students on 25 September. Information will come home nearer the time for those involved.
- Our Winter Sports Prizegiving will be held on the last day of term.



KAURI - INTERHOUSE NUKUMBALL CHAMPIONS!