

Kia Ora Tatou,

Just like every Term Four, this one ahead of us is shaping up to be very busy indeed. We've had the two-week break, and are now fully focussed on making sure every day counts for the students and their development. Pet Day (the BEST day of the year), cross country, camps, touch, Fun Day Friday, the disco, prizegivings - it's going to be GREAT!

We are so fortunate here to have hard working teachers, who have planned and put into place a varied, engaging and challenging programme. With nine weeks of the academic year ahead of us (43 days to go!), we all need to make sure that each child is making steady progress and trying their very best. Don't get me wrong - I am not counting down the days till the next holiday. Oh no - we are just so focussed on making sure that every day counts for your child. I think every school needs a sense of urgency about their kids and I know that this is the case here.

Parents, we really do appreciate your input to our school - reading to your kids, making sure they are fed, clothed and rested, that they attend school each day, keeping the use of devices under control, helping to coach, transporting kids, supervising cross country training, cooking for camp, leaving positive comments on our Facebook page and supporting Team Halcombe.

Kia kaha, e te whānau.

Let's all enjoy the ride this term!

Have a great week,

Alastair & The 'H' Team.

Pet Day Organisation - THURSDAY

Pet Day is one of our most well-attended events, and is a highlight of the school calendar. It's a time when we celebrate our rural roots. We look forward to having a great day on Thursday. Here's all you need to know (or be reminded of):

- Please note, the field may be too wet for vehicles to drive on. We will assess this tomorrow afternoon. We may need to do a repeat of what happened in 2023, where pets and kids had to be dropped off in the carpark. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.
- Children with pets arrive at school no later than 8.45am and must be ready for judging at 9am. They must stay with their pets out on the field. Judging will begin at 9.00am and should be finished by 10.30am.
- All pets must be under control at all times.
- Lamb and calf rings will be next to the hedge.
- Dogs will be in the ring closest to Room 1. They must stay on a leash at all times, and stay with the child.
- The kid goat ring will be next to the dogs.
- All other pets will be on the field at the playground end of the sprint track.
- Children need to be in charge of their pets - not parents.
- Each class will present two indoor exhibits which have been made at school. You will be able to view the exhibits in the hall after 9.30am.
- The Grand Parade will be held at the conclusion of judging. There will be a few minutes before the parade starts for students to dress their pet if they are wanting to enter the Best Dressed Pet Competition. A reminder that this is optional, and that the pets should not be harmed in any way.
- There will be a sausage sizzle for the students at Pet Day. This will be organised for later in the day, once all the pets and whānau have gone home. There is no charge.
- The annual Halcombe School Gumboot Throwing Champs will be held on the field during Pet Day too. Look out for a new event here too - the 'Great Bang The Nail In Challenge'.
- Please ensure you have parked legally, and not on the neighbour's front lawn.
- PET DAY WILL BE HELD RAIN, HAIL OR SHINE.

Term 4 Information

- The calendar is filling up fast, so be sure to check out what's happening via our school website.
- There are no assemblies or pie warmers this term. Both will resume in T2, 2025.
- Hats are compulsory in Term 4. Hats need to have a wide brim, and the drawcords need to be removed. Make sure they are named too please.
- The last day of the 2024 school year will be Friday 13 December. School finishes at 12.30pm.

Winter Sports Prizegiving

Congratulations to the following students who received awards at our prizegiving held at the end of last term:

- Dodunski Cup - most improved hockey player - Maggie and Taylor (joint award)
- Halcombe Cup - best hockey player - Lucas
- Roygard Cup - best football player - Harry
- Halcombe Rugby Cup - most improved rugby player - Brock
- Simpson Cup - best rugby player - Spencer
- Morresey Cup - most improved netball player - Brenna
- Henderson Cup - contribution to netball - Lucy
- Moriarty Cup - best junior netball player - Sienna
- Craine Cup - best senior netball player - Alex

School Photos

School photos will be taken next Monday 21 October. This year you can view and purchase photos online. All information is on the Photolife flyer that has been sent home today. Sibling photo requests are on the back of this flyer and must be returned to the office BEFORE photo day.

Some Reminders:

- no nail polish or makeup
- a single plain stud may be worn in each ear
- no other jewellery may be worn, other than a taonga
- long hair must be tied back
- no hair dye, or mullets, rats tails, mohawks, stripes, zig zags or extremes of fashion
- fingernails need to be kept short

School Speech Competition

Congratulations to those who participated in our senior speech finals at the end of last term. This was the first time this event has been held, and it was awesome! What a skill it is, to be able to stand and deliver a speech with enthusiasm and confidence! Well done to all our finalists, but a special congratulations to our winners:

Year 5 - Becky

Year 6 - Lucy

Year 7 - Hannah

Year 8 - Georgia

Touch Rugby

A reminder that this starts next Thursday 24 October. Keep an eye out for more information in KIT Books - this will be sent home as soon as we have the draw.



Holiday Results

Congratulations to the students who represented Halcombe School at two different events during the holidays:

- Feilding Rural Day:
 - Luke, Lachie and Hadleigh (the Halcombe Young Guns), placed second in the primary school's relay race.
 - Zoe, Harriet and Phoebe (the Halcombe Gumboot Gals) won the best dressed team in the primary competition.
- Manawatū-Whanganui Schools Mountain Biking Competition:
 - Cross Country - U13 Boys - Hunter 5th, Josh 6th and Louis 7th
 - Cross Country - U14 Girls - Maggie 1st
 - Enduro - U13 Boys - Gus 2nd
 - Enduro - U14 Girls - Maggie 1st

2025 Planning

If your child is not going to be at Halcombe School next year, please let us know now. We are well into the planning process for 2025.