

# Halcombe School



Term One - Week 6

4 March 2025

Kia Ora Tatou,

Yesterday saw us begin the first round of Three-Way Conferences. As I was hurrying around herding the sheep onto their next conference, I became aware of a terrific noise: laughter, enjoyment, connection, honesty. That's how it should be!

These Three-Way Conferences are a time when you can come away being proud of your child, and know exactly what their goals and next steps are. This is such important information to help you in your role as the primary cheerleaders of your children. I trust you found it interesting, useful and clear. If there are any lingering questions, please come back to us and ask - that's how we should work together. We are really looking forward to seeing the rest of you over the next couple of days.

From our point of view we greatly appreciate the time with you all, and the chance to share the progress your child has made, and the variety of goals they're working on. You will be pleased to know that the teachers greatly value this time spent together - to make connections and have good discussions about the future.

A thought this week for the excellent team of staff that work here. We are halfway through a busy term, and THIS week is possibly the busiest, with 3WCs, two swimming sports, an interschool triathlon, preparation for athletics to mention some of the things on the agenda! All of this takes a huge amount of organisation and preparation, and takes a lot of energy. The 3WCs alone demand each teacher to have 20-30 really detailed and intense conversations. As parents you would expect us to be at the top of our game, and we have those high expectations of ourselves too. The team of staff here operate so well together, and have complementary skills, so that provides so many good experiences and interests for our pupils. And most importantly our staff put in the hours of work needed to make sure that we are well prepared for events - and teaching and learning of course!

So, when you see one of these hard-working individuals, give them a pat on the back and some words of encouragement. We all need that at mid-term!

Thanks for your continued interest and support!  
Have a great week,  
Alastair & the 'H' Team.

## Pupils After School

We have noticed that there are children who are waiting a long time after school to be picked up. This has become more of an issue over time. We expect all our pupils to be picked up as early as possible, and certainly before 3.30pm, when the school office closes. After a long and intense day at school, it is important to get kids home, snacked, and calming down in their own environment. With meetings, planning and organisational matters, our teachers are not able to supervise pupils after school, so this means parents need to be here as soon as possible after 3pm. We realise that parking can be an issue, but by staggering the pick ups there is normally plenty of room in the hall car park area by 3.10pm. Feel free to stay around if you wish to play with your child or socialise in the grounds, but please keep your focus on your child and ensure they keep safe.

## Triathlon

We're really proud of all our kids for their efforts in the triathlon last week. It is such a good event for students to push themselves physically (and mentally at times!) and everyone felt a sense of accomplishment as they crossed the finish line. We were trialling a new system for keeping track of the laps this year. It mostly worked and we'll make some tweaks to make it even better next year. A special thank you to the parents who helped us on the day - great job team. All the best to our team of 34 who are competing at the Manawatū Interschool Triathlon tomorrow.

## Pool Use

We trust you have all enjoyed the use of the school pool during these past few weeks when it has been hot enough for an afternoon dip. We have had one issue though - we have found lint from normal clothes clogging up the pump. This is caused by people wearing clothes in the pool - swimming togs only please. A reminder that the pool season is almost at an end: **our pool closes on March 13th**. Please bring your keys back for the \$10 refund after that.