

Halcombe School



RD 9, FEILDING

PHONE (06) 328 8845; FAX (06) 328 8847; office@halcombe.school.nz

www.halcombe.school.nz

Term 4 Week 5

12th November 2013

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

Room 6 Camp

We wish our senior class all the best for their camp at Turangi this week. They have an action-packed week lined up with a visit to Tangiwai, abseiling, kayaking, caving, river rafting, mountain biking and a swim in the hot pools planned!

Transition to School - Information Evening for Parents

A reminder about our Information Evening tomorrow evening (13th November) at 7pm, for parents of pre-schoolers, and children who have recently begun school, on making a smooth and successful transition to school. Everyone is welcome.

Robotics

At the moment we have a number of Year 7 & 8 students who attend a robotics class after school each week at Feilding High School. If you currently have a Year 6 student, who might be interested in attending next year, please let us know.

EOTC

This term all classes are involved in trips away from school as part of our 'Education Outside the Classroom' programme. While Rooms 5 and 6 have camps which are 5-6 days long, other classes will also be learning outside their classrooms:

- Rooms 7 and 1 will be visiting Bartlett's dairy farm on Wednesday 20th November.
- Room 2 children are visiting a local farm on Thursday 21st November.
- Room 3 is having an overnight camp at school on 14th November and will visit Potaka Station and do the Loop Track walk in the Manawatu Gorge.
- Room 4 is having an overnight camp on 21st November and they'll be doing the Beehive Creek Walk in the Pohangina Valley and also visiting Bartlett's dairy farm.

New Enrolments

We are beginning to look at numbers and classes for 2014. If you know of any future enrolments, please encourage families to contact the school ASAP. We will let you know teachers and general class levels in the newsletter on 26th November.

Basic Facts

We have completed our end of year Basic Facts testing for students in years 4 - 8. Once again we are very pleased with the results. We wanted to especially thank all those parents who have spent valuable time with their children, encouraging and helping them learn their basic facts. Children have told us about the ways you have helped at home and they are proud of their results. You have done a fantastic job. The home-school partnership can achieve great things! Thank you.

"We are thrilled beyond words at our daughter's progress in basic facts this year. She has really proven to us what some additional help and encouragement at home can do. The difference it has made to her maths as a whole is incredible and now she has the confidence to stop and think before answering a maths problem and not just blurt out the first number that comes into her head. It hasn't been an onerous or time-consuming task either. We started off by randomly asking basic facts questions in the car, over the dinner table, at breakfast and bedtime. It worked better for us not to have a set maths time and we tried to make it as fun as possible. We noticed patterns which made the answers easier to remember and we pinpointed

particularly difficult to remember equations. We then practiced them over and over again until our daughter was exasperated with us, but we can guarantee she will never ever forget what 6x4 or 4x6 is! Soon she was beating us hands down when playing multiplication and addition war with cards, and we printed off sheets from Kidzone so she could practice answering questions under time pressure, just like at school. We are immensely proud of her perseverance and determination to succeed and she has by far exceeded all of our expectations." (Parent quote)

Resignation

Unfortunately, Anna Christiansen has resigned her position at our school, to take up a new entrant teaching position at Mt Biggs School. Anna has been with us for 3 years and has always had a passion for new entrant children. We are very sad that Anna is leaving us, however we know that she will love teaching the 5 year olds again. We thank her for everything she has contributed to Halcombe School and pass on our every best wish for her future teaching career.

Stationery 2014

A reminder that we are switching to supplying student stationery in packs next year, rather than run a stationery shop in the Hall. Full details in upcoming newsletters.

Yummy 2013

We have received over \$340 in free sports gear from this year's Yummy sticker campaign. Miss Simpson has ordered lots more touch balls and cones to add to our PE supplies. Thanks again for all your support! Please visit the [class blogs](#) for more information and a photo of our top collectors for 2013.

Sexuality Education

A reminder that students in Year 5 - 8 will take part in the "Good Talks" sexuality education programme in week 7. The topics that will be covered can be viewed at our [website](#) or at the office. An evening workshop for parents will be on **Monday 25th November at 7pm**, following our next PTA meeting. Everyone is welcome!

Health Consultation

We welcome your feedback on our health curriculum. A reminder that you can view these documents at our website (under "[Community Consultation](#)") or at the Office.

End of Year Dates to Remember:

- Parent Information evening: TOMORROW evening Wed 13th November
- PTA Meeting: 6.30pm Mon 25th November
- Sexuality Education parents workshop: 7pm Mon 25th Nov.
- BOT Meeting: 6.30pm Mon 2nd Dec. (please note earlier start time)
- Athletics Day: 9am Wed 4th Dec.
- Senior Social: 7pm Fri 6th Dec.
- Year 8 Leavers Dinner: Monday 9th Dec.
- Reports and Learning Logs sent home: Mon 9th Dec.
- Junior Prizegiving: 1.20pm Tues 10th Dec.
- Senior Prizegiving: 7pm Wed 11th Dec.
- End of year: 1pm Thursday 12th December.

Kind regards

Sue Simpson
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Wanted to buy

Garden arch - pipe and mesh. 1.5 m wide. Must be good condition. Please contact the office.