

Halcombe School

RD 9, FEILDING

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Term 4 Week 8

3rd December 2013

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

Student Council donation

As part of the library upgrade, the Student Council has donated a wonderful set of furniture. A "big thank" you to the Student Council for all their fundraising efforts during the year.

The new furniture looks fantastic and everyone in the school will use it. Along with the new carpet, the library is looking wonderful. Feel free to call in and have a look!



Junior Christmas Party

The Junior Team will hold their Christmas Party next Tuesday 10th December beginning at 1.30pm (previously 1.20pm) in the Hall. All students in Rooms 7, 1, 2 and 3 are involved, and families are most welcome to attend. Please note that this is formal occasion. We ask that pre-schoolers sit quietly with their parents.

Senior Prizegiving

The Senior Prizegiving will be next Wednesday 11th December starting at 7pm. This is a formal event for Rooms 4, 5 & 6 where we celebrate student achievements for the year and farewell our Year 8 students. Families are welcome to attend. This may not be a suitable event for all pre-schoolers.

School Magazine

We have seen the proof copies and know it will be a wonderful record of a very busy year at Halcombe School! We have limited numbers left to order, so please be in quick! Use the order form in last week's newsletter. A reminder that any online payments must be received by the school before we can fulfil your order. There has been a slight delay in publication and the magazines will now be delivered early next week.

Library and Reading Books

Could we please make a plea for families to have a *really good search* at home for junior reading books and school journals. Unfortunately each year a number of these are not returned, so we have to buy replacements to make up sets. We look forward to our support with this.

The school library is now closed for the year, so please send library books back to school now.

Athletic Sports - 4th December

A reminder that the Athletics Day starts at 9.00am and finishes at 12.30pm tomorrow. Parents and supporters are most welcome to attend.

- 11.00am - 100m sprint finals for the boys and girls Athletic Champions.
- 400m open races at about 11.30am (finalists know who they are)

Stationery 2014

Thank you for your response to our stationery plans for 2014 - the majority of students will be getting stationery packs next year. Thank you for your support! A separate reminder will be sent home this week to the few families we are yet to hear from.

Feilding Bus - mornings

Although Feilding High School and Feilding Intermediate are closing next week and our Feilding bus has less students to collect in the morning, the pick-up from the West Street stop will be at the usual time (8.30am). Paul may get there earlier but don't panic - he will wait!

Board of Trustees Report

Last night the final Board meeting for the year was held. A large part of the meeting was reviewing student achievement reports and property information, which are summarised below:

- We were presented with Basic Facts, Supplementary Test of Achievement in Reading, Spelling, and Progressive Achievement Test in Punctuation and Grammar data. Overall there have been some huge improvements in these areas and success for our students. One area that was highlighted as needing improvement was Punctuation and Grammar, as well as spelling. These areas will be a focus for 2014.
- NAG 4a, which is the Finance guideline, has been reviewed and changes made. This document was accepted by the Board and now ensures that the financial management of the school is meeting our needs.
- Tamzin Darragh, our Personnel Officer, reported on several circulars regarding the Support Staff in School's Collective Agreement, and the changes to the process to Principal Concurrence.
- We took a short break to visit the new toilet block between Rooms 3 and 4, the newly-refurbished Room 2, and the new-look library. It is fabulous to see these new fresh areas in our school.
- Repair work to the hall is due to start soon, with final notification from the Ministry of Education arriving any day.

From the Board of Trustees, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Enjoy the holiday season and we will look forward to working with you and your family next year.

Anne Langtry - Chairperson, Halcombe School Board of Trustees

End of Year Dates to Remember:

- Athletics Day: 9am TOMORROW.
- Senior Social: 7pm Fri 6th Dec.
- Year 8 Leavers Dinner: Monday 9th Dec. Kind regards
- Reports and Learning Logs sent home: Mon 9th Dec.
- Junior Prizegiving: 1.30pm Tues 10th Dec.
- Senior Prizegiving: 7pm Wed 11th Dec. Sue Simpson
- End of year: 1pm Thursday 12th December. Buses will run at 1.00pm. Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Christmas Cave!

Brought to you by the Rotary Club of Feilding, at the Little Theatre, Stafford Street, Feilding; opening from Sunday 8th December. Session times and full details at the school Office. Entry by gold coin donation per person. For group bookings and appointments, please phone Paul Hollin 323 2282.

Halcombe Carols and Christmas Services

There will be a carol service followed by a pot luck supper at St Michael's Church, Stanway, on the 8th December at 5pm. Everyone is welcome, and a lusty sing song is guaranteed to get you in the festive spirit! There is also a Christmas Day Service at St Michaels, Stanway at 9.30am.

Home for Rent - Makino Road

Four bedroom home plus office, large lounge and open-planned dining and kitchen onto quaint deck available for a family to rent. Located on Makino Road, with lovely large grounds and bus stop not far away. Paddock behind house is available if needed. Please contact Kahlia (06 3296799) if interested.