

Halcombe School

RD 9, FEILDING

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Term 2 Week 11

30th June 2015

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

Another great term of learning is coming to an end at Halcombe School. We are entering that mad dash to the end of the term, and the kids and teachers are making the most of the time we have left. Thank you to all our parents for your continued enthusiasm and support.

Many of you will have seen or heard the media reports about maths that are circulating at the moment. Basic facts have never been dropped from the maths programme at Halcombe School as these reports suggest. Neither have the old-fashioned written forms of solving problems. I know that any parents who have attended our maths workshops would know about how we focus on Basic Facts and expect children to know these inside-out and quickly. Last year, 87% of our students were achieving at or above National Standard in Maths. That is a wonderful testament to our teaching and learning programmes and the work we are doing with your support. We are working hard to lift this to 90% over the next couple of years. While media reports in education do make us stop and think, generalisations are never useful when we know we are doing a great job of teaching maths!

Drinking Water

The school drinking water supply was disrupted last week following the floods, although we did have fresh drinking water available for the children. Everything is back to normal now with the Water Scheme working again and our water test showing 'all clear'. I would like to thank the Manawatu District Council for keeping us informed and their excellent support during the week.

Buses

If you are aware of incidents that are happening on the bus, please call in and see me or ring. We regularly encourage our children to stand up for what's right, and speak up when things are going wrong, or when people are annoying them.





Swearing

I have had to talk to several children recently about using inappropriate language/swearing at school. Children see adults around them as role models and will copy what you say. Reminding children at home and modelling what is appropriate language will reinforce what we are doing at school.

TOMORROW is 'Wheels Day' And 'Burger Day'!

(Hot pies will NOT be available tomorrow.)

All bikes, scooters etc go to the Hall before school (no riding in the playground before 9am) then classes will have allocated times to enjoy 'wheels time'. Your teacher will tell you what to do! It is OK to bring scooters etc on the bus but please be careful!

 <h2 style="text-align: center;">WHEELS DAY</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY – WEEK 11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BRING YOUR SKATEBOARDS, RIPSTICKS, SCOOTERS OR ROLLERBLADES!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO BIKES PLEASE.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WE RECOMMEND WEARING A HELMET.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SPOT PRIZES TO BE WON!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE STUDENT COUNCIL</p> 	<h2 style="text-align: center;">BURGER DAY</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 1st July \$3 each</p> <p style="text-align: center;">You can order your burger before school - orders close next Tuesday 30th June</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Proudly brought to you by the Student Council</p> 
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Hoop & Table Tennis Table for Sale

We still have a basketball hoop with backboard (next to the old dental clinic) and a table tennis table (in the hall foyer) for sale. Please contact Sue for more information about any of these items. Very cheap!

Maths Magnets

These great maths learning aids are back in stock! A colourful and useful addition to your fridge door, to help you learn those all-important basic facts. The magnets are \$5 each and available at the Office.

Kids for Kids 'Slice of Heaven' Concert

We have a choir of about 30 children who will perform in this year's Kids for Kids Concert on Monday 3rd August at the Manawatu Stadium (Pascal Street), Palmerston North. The performance starts at 7.30pm and finishes at 9.20pm. Tickets are on sale now through TicketDirect www.ticketdirect.co.nz. Follow the 'Buy Tickets' link. Tickets always sell fast for this event. (Children will come home with more information in the new term, including details about the rehearsal.)

Barbara Davies

Barb has been unwell and off work for a few days. She will pop in before the end of term to visit us, and then will return with all the bells and whistles at the start of the new term!

Interhouse Patter Tennis Finals

Congratulations to Kauri who just managed to beat Rimu and win our annual Patter Tennis Tournament. Visit the [Room 6 blog](#) for more photos and reports.



Room 7 Fire Station Visit

Room 7 enjoyed a wonderful visit to our local Fire Station last week. The children were shown the fire engine and tried out the fire hose, as they learnt about the important job that fire-fighters do. Thank you to Mr Giesen and Mr Johnston from the Halcombe Fire Brigade.

Assembly

The final assembly for the term will be hosted by Room 6 and begins at 2.30pm on Friday. All welcome!

End of Term

Term 2 ends on Friday at the usual time (3pm). Term 3 will start on Monday 20th July.

Kind regards

Sue Simpson
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICE

YMCA Holiday Programmes

The YMCA Central is offering OSCAR programmes and the Raukawa Adventure Camp during the July holidays. Visit www.ymcacentral.org.nz for information and registration! Leaflets also available at Halcombe School Office.