

Halcombe School



RD 9, FEILDING

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Term 3 Week 5

18th August 2015

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

Crazy Day

We are looking forward to seeing all of our CRAZY KIDS on Thursday. This is a great way to raise some money for an excellent cause and have lots of fun at the same time.

Dress as CRAZY as you like!

Touch

It is great to see that so many students across the school are signing up to play touch rugby next term. However, we have a wee problem! Of the 32 students who have signed up so far, we only have two people who are keen to coach. Unless we have more coaches available, we won't be able to enter teams. It really isn't a difficult job – it's someone who can be there to keep an eye on the kids, sub players on and off and give a half time pep-talk! Please let us know if you'd like to help out. A reminder that forms and money are due at the Office by this Friday 21st August.



NO assembly

This is a reminder that there is NO ASSEMBLY this week. Room 3 will host the next assembly on Friday 28th August.

Carpark

Thank you everyone for reversing in to the carpark in the interests of children's safety. It makes such a difference when you are not trying to check behind your car when leaving the carpark. We really appreciate your support.

Shelving Reading Books

A big thank you to Jill Skjoth, Lynne Newman and Kirstine Lehany who have been re-shelving reading books for us each week. It is a very important job, and we have really appreciated their help. We are looking for more parents who can assist with putting books away, one afternoon each week. Please contact the Office if you are able to help.



Gymnastics

Thanks again to all the parents who have helped during gymnastics. The children have all gained confidence, taken risks and learnt new skills. We appreciate all your help. Gymnastics finishes on Friday this week.

Totally Vets Supporters' Partnership

Thanks to the support of Totally Vets in Feilding, and their many clients that purchase animal care products from Merial Ancare & Zoetis, Halcombe School has just received a generous donation of \$674.52.

The "Supporters' Partnership" benefits many schools & sports clubs in the region. Thank you to all the local farmers and pet-owners that have nominated Halcombe School in this programme. We will use this donation to purchase more ICT equipment for the school.

South Makirikiri Winter Sports Exchange

We held a very successful winter sports exchange with South Mak last week. More than 40 students from across the Senior Team were involved in netball, soccer and rugby matches. After being well beaten last year, we are pleased to report we were far more competitive this year! Thank you so much to our coaches and referees and to those who came along to watch.



Board of Trustees

It was great to see some new faces at last week's Board of Trustees meeting. Visitors are always welcome and, with elections coming up next year, now is a great time to join us to get a better understanding of the role of the Board and how it operates. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please contact either Megan Skiffington (Board Chair) or Kirsten Otter (Board Secretary).

Mathematics continues to be a major focus area for Halcombe School and at last week's meeting the Board reviewed mid-year (June) assessments in Basic Facts and Number Knowledge compared to testing at the start of the year (February). Improvement was noted in both areas as a result of a number of teaching strategies that have been successfully implemented in classrooms.

The Board is also currently reviewing the Trustee Portfolios. Each trustee is responsible for one of five specific roles including Chairperson (Megan Skiffington), Personnel (Tamzin Darragh), Finance (Anne Langtry), Property (Kevin Darling) and Health & Safety (Annie O'Fee). The Trustee Portfolio review will see a new template introduced that will help to clarify trustee duties and assist with self-review.

Finally, the new Health & Safety Act will apply to schools in the same way that it will to any other work place and so Annie O'Fee is currently getting to grips with the proposed legislation in order to ensure that Halcombe School complies, particularly around the use of volunteers.

The next Board meeting is on Monday 7th September 2015 at 7pm in the staffroom.

Kevin Darling for the Halcombe School Board of Trustees

Kind regards

Sue Simpson
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Barnados KidStart Childcare

A Barnados Educator will be soon be available in the Halcombe area, offering quality in-home childcare for children aged birth to 4 years. If you are looking for childcare, please contact Kylie Wakelin at Barnados 06 952 8556 or 027 707 8243. Barnados also offer the opportunity for parents to train as Educators and run their own childcare service from home. If this interests you, please contact Kylie for more information or visit Facebook/BarnadosKidsStartChildcare. Info leaflets also available at the Office.