

WELCOME TO FAIRLIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Starting school will be one of the 'big milestones' in your child's life. At Fairlie Primary School our aim is to provide you with information and ideas that will help both you and your child make a smooth and successful transition into school life. We understand that all young children are capable learners. They begin their learning journey at the time they are born and have knowledge, interests and aspirations before they start school. During their early years they learn aspects of decision making, thinking skills, literacy and numeracy, through a range of play-based learning experiences. They also begin to learn how to participate and contribute in social settings, manage themselves and relate to others around them. At Fairlie Primary, our New Entrant programme builds on the skills your child has from earlier years and provides them with a welcoming environment, where they feel comfortable to take risks in learning and social settings.

There are many differences between early childhood centers and school settings, which is why starting school can be an anxious time for all involved. Your child will be meeting a new group of friends and their routine will change. It is also a very exciting time, as each day your child will learn to work and play with other children, while facing new and exciting challenges. Whilst visiting and during the time your child is in the New Entrant class our specialist programme, taught by Mrs McKenzie, provides your child with the experiences and skills they need to form relationships with their new classmates and teacher. These skills will help to set your child up for the rest of their schooling life.

When your child starts school, they will enter our New Entrant classroom (Korimako), which has small groups and specific learning intentions. In the classroom our focus is to build a solid foundation of literacy, numeracy and social skills. These social skills foster independence, self-confidence, resilience and a love of learning. Each day your child will be responsible for their own learning and self-management. Mrs McKenzie will guide them on how to look after their belongings and how to take responsibility for items that need to come home to support their learning. As well as literacy, numeracy and social skills, we understand that physical skills and movement is a huge part of your child's development and this is woven into our daily programme through play-based provocations. Each day we have high expectations of all children and ensure that they are reaching their full potential.

Your child will begin pre-school visits approximately 3 weeks before they are due to start school. These visits are designed to make the transition to school a smoother process for your child. Our school visits programme provides opportunities for children to be involved in a variety of experiences so they know what being at school is like. We also run a Jump Start programme, where we invite 4 year olds into school on an afternoon in term 4 to get to know Mrs McKenzie and other children in a relaxed environment. Please check our web calendar, on our website, for dates and times each term.

Remember school is one of life's most wonderful adventures, the journey has evolved and changed over the years. Be positive about learning and the opportunities school brings.

More about Korimako routines

Our New Entrant teacher Courtney McKenzie is in the classroom each morning when your child arrives to assist them with their morning routine. Please allow your children to be independent and carry their own school bag into school and unpack it.

Most of our days in Korimako follow the same structure.

8.30 - 8.50am - Arrive at school and complete the morning routine.

First Block - 9.00am - Guided Maths

10.10 - Mat time & Kai

10.30am - 10.50am - **Morning tea play**

Second Block - 10.50am - Guided Literacy

11.50 - 12.30pm - **Lunch**

Third Block - 12.30pm - Guided Literacy

1.30 - 1.50pm **Brain Break**

Fourth Block - 1.50 - 2.20pm - Teaching through play - Through play children can develop social and cognitive skills, mature emotionally, and gain the self-confidence required to engage in new experiences and environments. During this time we will discover other areas of the curriculum.

2.50pm - Class pack up

3.00pm - Begin lining up in bus and walkers lines

3.10pm - Home time

Class Dojo

At Fairlie Primary all teachers use Class Dojo. Class Dojo helps us to privately communicate your child's positive behaviour and learning. We are able to send you videos and pictures of your child's learning and you are able to send us messages back. This is one of the ways we report on your child's progress.

Stationary

Our stationary lists and ordering is done online at OfficeMax - My School. Open up the OfficeMax website <https://www.myschool.co.nz/> and follow the prompts to 'Fairlie School' - Miss Cox (Korimako).

Uniform

Uniform is available to purchase online from Mainland Uniforms <http://www.mainlanduniforms.co.nz/category.php?id=160> . Please see Lee-Ann or Jill in the Office if you would like to try on the uniform for sizing, before purchasing.

We welcome all families who are interested in enrolling at Fairlie Primary to come and look at our amazing classrooms and meet our wonderful teachers. Pop in or make an appointment by emailing courtney@fairlie.school.nz or phoning 03 6858 504.

Ngā Mihi,
Courtney McKenzie