

New Entrant News



Clearview Primary
Te Kura o Marama

Skilled thinkers and communicators
stepping out with confidence.

Junior Teachers



Welcome to Clearview Primary and the Junior Team. Starting school is an exciting time. We hope that the information that follows will be of assistance to you and your child in achieving a happy and smooth transition to school.



Dear Parents/Caregivers

It is with pleasure that we welcome you to Clearview Primary. We aim to deliver a programme that builds strong foundations in literacy and numeracy while encouraging children to ask questions and explore the world around them. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. Our school office number is 347 7025.

Erin Sutherland & Sarah Beattie
Leaders of the Junior Teams

First day

Your child may experience a variety of emotions when starting school. These may include excitement, enjoyment, confusion and tiredness. Keep expectations realistic and encourage confidence. Your positive attitude will help your child's transition to school. On the first day ensure you arrive at school in plenty of time. Help your child to put his/her things away in the right place and say hello to the teacher. We value independence at school and suggest that you start as you mean to continue. Encourage your child to do these things for themselves and give plenty of praise and encouragement. Your child's teacher will discuss when it is a good time to leave. Often it is best to leave just before the bell rings. Occasionally, children become tearful when parents depart from the room, but experience has taught us that they do settle soon afterwards. A phone call to the school office can ease any concerns.

Parents as First Teachers

How you can help...

Children learn by example. They need to be involved and converse with adults who are interested and prepared to share ideas and experiences with them. Everyday happenings are an invaluable basis for learning at home and in the wider community. Talk with your child, drawing their attention to items of interest when you are out in the car, at the beach, park, shops, doctor etc. Children are curious by nature and ask lots of questions. Encourage your child to 'wonder' about the world around them.

At Clearview we encourage the development of our values:

- Be Responsible
- Demonstrate Respect
- Strive for Success
- Act with Integrity

Preparing for School

Does your child know:

- How to read and write their name?
- The names of their siblings?
- How to hold a pen correctly?
- How to count and read the numbers 1 - 10?
- Some letters and sounds?

Can your child cope with:

- Toileting and hand washing?
- Being responsible for their belongings? i.e. Packing and unpacking their bag, taking clothing on and off.
- Sharing equipment?
- Eating their lunch independently?
- Putting on shoes and doing them up?

The things listed above are helpful skills for children who are beginning school. If your child is working towards some of these skills, we are here to help.

Personal Belongings

Please make sure that your child has a large school bag that is named, and can be easily opened and packed independently. Please name every item.

Bag Checklist



- * Reading Folder
- * Lunch box with lunch & "read & feed" snacks
- * Water bottle
- * Sunhat (Terms 1 and 4)



Transition to School Visits

Children begin school following pre-arranged pre-entry visits one to two weeks before the date on which they are to start. Your child's teacher will contact you 4 weeks before your child's 5th birthday to arrange suitable times.

Most children will need two pre-entry visits. These are usually scheduled on a Monday or Thursday. We choose these days so that children are able to experience school operating as normally as possible when they visit. The first visit takes place from 11.15am - 12.15pm and the second from 8.50am - 10.55am. Some children may require more than two visits and this can be arranged by talking to your child's teacher. A parent/caregiver must remain with the child at all times.

During these visits, the teacher will familiarise your child with the school and homebase environment. The teacher will introduce them to any activities that are set up around the room and talk to them about how to work at the activities. Your child may or may not like to join in with tasks the class is doing. Encourage them to join in when they feel ready to do so.

Please remember that the homebase teacher will be very busy during learning time. If you wish to speak with them about your child, please arrange a suitable time at the conclusion of the lesson.

Food for thought

The children eat their morning tea during the morning programme and their lunch at 12.15pm. Children are often very hungry at morning tea time. A sandwich or something similar is good at this time, or perhaps half a sandwich and the other half at lunch. Wrapping the snacks separately helps your child to eat evenly throughout the day. Please do not send yoghurt or any other food that is easily spilled for morning tea as it will be eaten indoors. The following website gives some ideas for healthy lunchboxes. <http://www.nzs.com/new-zealand-articles/family/lunch-ideas-for-kids.html> Please give consideration to whether your child can eat the food unaided. Large apples and oranges are better cut into smaller pieces. It can take a long time for a child to eat a whole apple and peel a whole orange. We encourage healthy eating, so please leave lollies and chocolate for after school treats.

Stationery and Uniform

Please visit our school website for information regarding school stationery and the uniform. www.clearview.school.nz

General stationery is ordered online through Office Max. It would be helpful if your child could have these stationery items ready for their second visit. Visit www.myschool.co.nz and search for Clearview Primary. Choose 'Year 1' for the year level.

There are two other items we also require for use in our reading programme.

The following items can be paid for at the school office:

1 x Read-It Reading log	\$4.50
1 x Browsing Box	\$3.00
Total	\$7.50

In case of illness

If your child is going to be absent please contact the school office before school starts. You can call the office at any time and leave a message on the answer phone.



Some useful links:

Lunch box ideas: <http://www.nzs.com/new-zealand-articles/family/lunch-ideas-for-kids.html>

Alphabet and early reading activities: www.starfall.com

<http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/picturematch/>

Christchurch Libraries site: <http://christchurchcitylibraries.com/Kids/>

Reading

Books help to enrich children's thinking. Quality time and experiences sharing books at home can be very rewarding. Time spent reading should be enjoyable, relaxing and contain lots of praise and positive encouragement.

School reading is sent home in your child's reading folder every day. This may be in the form of a book, or a poem. There will also be a notebook for you to write comments to your child about their reading. Listen to your child read for 10 - 15 minutes each day. Select a time when your child is not hungry or tired. Reading books aloud to your child is a really important part of the learning to read process. Among other things, reading to your child models what good readers sound like, what they do when they make a mistake, and it also allows your child to see you as a reader.



Home Learning

- *Reading book
- *Learning alphabet letters and corresponding sounds
- *Learning high frequency words
- *Number activities - counting forwards and backwards from 10 and later from 20

Maths

During the year your child will cover a variety of topics, most of which will be revisited and studied in greater depth as they progress. Through the use of equipment, their environment, language and following role models they develop their maths knowledge, skills and processes.

You can encourage the development of mathematical concepts through various activities such as:

Number Knowledge: Practise reading numbers when you come across them (e.g. On birthday cards, letterboxes etc.)

Fractions: Talk about cutting food in halves or quarters. Talk about half a cup and quarter of a cup when baking.

Time: Encourage your child to read the clock, starting with the "o'clocks".

Sorting/Classifying: Choose two objects. Ask your child to spot the similarities and differences.

Capacity: Children are always keen to mix up fruit drinks etc. (Outside if necessary!) They can be encouraged to use the correct measurements in cups, millilitres and litres.

Patterns: Children could make repeating patterns from beads, counters, blocks etc.

We look forward to joining you in the development of your child as a skilled thinker and communicator stepping out with confidence.