



Information booklet for Parents of New Entrant Children.



Welcome to Glenfield Primary School



Mrs Cooper
Principal

We are very happy to welcome you to Glenfield Primary School, where everyone is a learner. We are committed to providing the best learning opportunities for our students and hope that you will become fully involved in our school community and the learning journey of your child.



Mrs Lundin,
Deputy Principal



Mrs McCourt,
Deputy Principal



Mrs Cowell,
in the office



Mrs Fitzgerald,
in the office

Before Starting School

Enrol Early:

- Come to the school office and make an appointment to enrol your child 2-3 months before they turn five.
- Once you have enrolled your child, they will have a minimum of two classroom visits before they start school. This will give your child an experience of what it will be like when they start school.

During these visits, your child will get the opportunity to experience the normal routines of a school day. We encourage you to stay with your child during these visits as it will also help you to know what happens in the classroom. They will need to bring morning tea and a bottle of water. They do not need to wear school uniform for these visits, but may do so if it has already been purchased.

Get To Know The School Environment:

- Show your child where you will pick them up after school.
- Spend time walking around the school, playing in the playground and talking to your child about school.

Finding Friends:

- Help your child to develop friendships at school by organising play dates and to meet other children new to the school.



Support Your Child To Be Successful At School

Plenty of Sleep:

Children who are tired do not learn as well. Children who have watched too much TV, played on devices or stayed up too late find it hard to pay attention and learn. Ten hours sleep per night is recommended for children.

Eating well:

Children need a balanced diet. A good breakfast is essential before a 6 hour school day. Children also need a fruit snack at 10 o'clock, a healthy packed morning tea and lunch with a bottle of water to drink during the day. Our school is a lolly free school, so please do not pack lollies, chocolate bars, soft drinks or sugary foods. Practise opening packets so that your child can do this by themselves.

Positive Attitude:

Encourage your child to try hard and have a positive attitude to school. Support them to be independent towards school readiness - e.g. get them to help pack their lunch box and put their book bag away on arrival at school.

Have The Correct Gear:

The correct school uniform, stationery (ask at the school office for a list) and lunch is important. Make sure everything is **named**.

Be On Time:

Social time and preparation for the day happens before school. Children who come late are disadvantaged. Please make sure your child is at school at 8:30. Children miss out on crucial preparation and learning time. If your child is going to be late or absent, please phone the school office. We value attendance highly and monitor this.

Talk To Us:

Please let your child's teacher know if you have any concerns - behaviour, hearing, health, eyesight, social and learning. We are here to help.

Readiness For School

Starting school is a really important event and we are keen to help children settle into their new school. It is helpful if your child can:

- Speak clearly enough for an adult to understand them
- Speak in full sentences
- Hold a pencil correctly, use a glue stick and be able to use a pair of scissors
- Write in lower case letters
- Write their own name
- Know the letter sounds
- Be able to listen and follow simple instructions
- Listen to stories and nursery rhymes
- Use scissors correctly
- Count to 10 and count back from 10
- Read numbers to 10
- Know the names of colours
- Open lunch boxes and food packets
- Hop, jump and run independently



Self Help Skills

- Use the toilet and wash their hands
- Blow their nose correctly
- Dress themselves and turn clothes the right way
- Put shoes on the correct feet by themselves
- Be able to unpack and hand their bag
- Sit on the mat for a period of time and listen well
- Play with others
- Ask for things they need
- Know how to take turns, share and wait patiently.



Term Dates

Term 1	2 nd February - 16 th April
Term 2	3 rd May - 9 th July
Term 3	26 th July - 1 st October
Term 4	18 th October - 14 th December

*On the last day of each term, school closes at 2pm

School times

8:30am	Children arrive a school.
9:00	School begins
10:30	Snack time
10:40	Play time
11:00	Morning classes resume
12:40	Lunch eating time
1:00	Play time
1:30	Afternoon class begins
3:00	School finishes



Oral Language

Speaking and Listening

Language develops in children when you give them lots of information to think about and talk about. Being able to talk and listen helps children to read and write.

Time spent talking with your child and listening to what they have to say will increase their confidence and relationship skills. You will also be helping them with their reading and writing because speaking, listening, reading and writing are all connected.

Why is it important for me to talk with my child?

It takes a lot of practice to learn to speak and listen well. Talking with your child also helps them understand better. Try telling your child what you're feeling and thinking and encourage them to tell you what they think and feel. This helps them learn to express themselves.

When should we talk together?

At mealtimes, in the car, at bedtime, at the shops, at any time. Tell them stories, show them how to talk on the phone, teach them songs, karakia and poems. Encourage them to listen to others and never be too busy to answer their questions.

What should we talk about?

Talk with your child about things around them. Talk about things you have done or are going to do, eg - washing the car, cooking dinner. Share jokes or funny experiences. Talk about the things that your child has made, has written, or is reading. Talk about stories. Discuss, explain and question. Introduce your children to new and exciting vocabulary, children love to experiment with new words.

Some examples of rich oral language experiences:

- Nursery rhymes and poems
- Reading to your child
- Songs, waiata and chants
- Telling jokes
- Playing naming games, for example I Spy



Home learning

Children should spend 10-15 minutes per day on their home learning during their first year at school.

- Reading to you
- Learning the letter sounds
- Learning the sight words
- Counting activities
- spelling



Reading

Please read to your child every day and listen to them read. Your children will bring home books to read to you. They will need also bring home a library book once a week for you to read to them.

If your child does not know a word - wait. Give them time to think. If they still don't know the words try the following steps.

- Look at the beginning and help them sound it out
- Talk about possible words that would make sense
- Suggest they look at the pictures
- Ask your child to go back to the beginning and read it again
- If they still don't know it, tell them
- Praise your child



Your child will have read the book in class with the teacher and it should not be too hard.

Read words together wherever you find them. Read and talk about shop signs, labels, shopping, lists etc. Read favourite books again and again and again!

Go to Glenfield Public Library and choose books for fun.

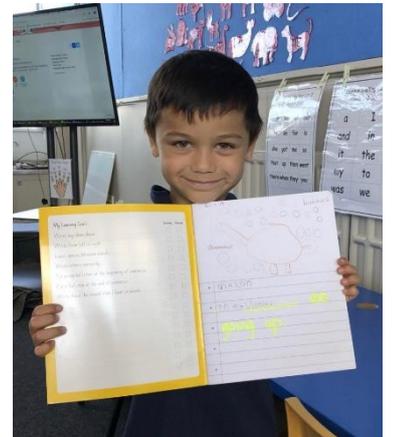
Let your child see you reading.



Writing



- Help your child to learn to write their name
- Encourage your child to experiment with writing
- Help your child to use the correct pencil grip.
- Support your child to learn the correct letter formation, as letters learned incorrectly take a long time to correct. All letters (except d & e) start at the top of the letter.
- Let your child type on the computer.
- Let them see you writing.
- Pin up a list of words that your child can read or write.
- Make a shopping list together.
- Make a cards and write thank you letter together.
- Make an alphabet book.
- Encourage your child to talk about what they want to write first, draw a picture and then write about it.
- Provide a space for them to display their writing.
- Focus on the ideas in the writing, don't worry about correct spelling. Praise your child for having a go at spelling new words.



Lower Case Letters

a b c d e f g
h i j k l m n
o p q r s t u
v w x y z
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

Upper Case letters

A B C D E F
G H I J K L
M N O P Q R
S T U V W
X Y Z

Maths

Sorting

Ask your child to sort their toys into groups of colour or shape, sort the knives and forks when setting the table, sort nails and screws into containers.

Comparing

Who is tallest? Compare shoes in the family; compare the numbers of fruit and vegetables- smallest to biggest, lightest to heaviest etc.

Patterning

Find and look at patterns - such as those on wallpaper or curtains. You could copy a pattern, repeat and extend a pattern and make your own up using all sorts of materials such as shells, leaves, sticks.

Matching:

Ask your child to find matching socks. Do jigsaws together. Play card games like snap and memory.

Counting:

Young children love to count. Encourage them to count anything. Get them to count things and to use counting to solve real problems. Count forwards and backwards.

Other (Ngaahi Mea Kehe)

- Play card games, board games and dice games.
- Use the calendar - how many days until your birthday, what day do you start school?
- Read numbers on letter boxes, price tags, shoe sizes.
- Write numerals - in the sand, with chalk, on paper, with a paintbrush and water outside.
- Make groups - collect numbers of objects - for example, get the right number of forks for everyone.

