



Ararira Springs Primary

Te Puna o Ararira

Welcome to Ararira

It's been a very busy time here on site over the last few weeks. I did manage to get a bit of a break and made the big decision to purchase an electric vehicle. This makes my commute to Lincoln much more economical, environmentally friendly and quieter!



The doors to Ararira Springs Primary open for learners on Monday morning. It has been an exciting few weeks getting things ready and a huge thank you to everyone who has worked tirelessly to make this happen.

We want to extend a very warm welcome to you your family. Our school is beautiful but it is certainly missing it's most essential element, the children!

Mihi Whakatau on Monday

Please join us at 8:30 am on Monday morning as we welcome friends and whanau to our beautiful new school. **Mihi whakatau** is the Māori term used to describe a formal speech of welcome. It is traditionally used for welcoming, introductions, openings and general purpose which take place off the marae. It is a tradition we wish to establish as part of the way we will welcome families in the future.

The format is as follows:

- 8:30 Assemble at school
- 8:45 Whanau and friends move quietly into school grounds and sit in Kaunuku spaces on the tiered seating. Speakers and Year 7 and 8 students sit on paepae.
- Blair will speak on behalf of school and waiata to follow
- Speaker from visitor's group, followed by waiata
- Hongi and hariru (handshake) between those on paepae
- Claire Howison, Principal and Suzy Petersen (eBOT Chair) to speak
- Invitation for those wishing to plant the tree to move to field
- Morning tea in and outside the staffroom.

Enrolments Are Open



We will keep our enrolment page open. If you have friends or neighbours in the area with school age children please encourage them to pre enrol so we can plan accordingly.

There is a wealth of information on our website and we will be hosting visits to make the transition to school as easy as possible.

[Link to Online Enrolment Form](#)

Please continue to visit our website as it is regularly updated.

We imagine the process will conclude at 10am. Children and families will then be welcome to visit the learning spaces and have a look around the school. Year 1 - 4 children then head home and our older students stay at school for the day and will be involved in a leadership programme that includes road patrol training.

What to bring: Y1-4 your stationery and biggest smile. Y6/7/8 your lunch, stationery, hat, togs and towel.

What to wear: This is a semi formal occasion so tidy dress and children in uniform is appropriate.

We will return the sod at our formal opening on March 22nd.

Tuesday and Beyond

We welcome students from 8:30 am for a 9:00 am start. Please send children with togs and a towel as we may use the sprinklers on these very hot days!

Devices - if you are bringing a device to school we would like you to first fill out a BYOD agreement. These can be downloaded from our website or picked up from the office.

Uniform - if this hasn't yet arrived please wear navy or colours close to the school uniform.

School Hours - Monday - Friday, 9am - 3pm. We welcome children onsite from 8:15 (no active supervision) into the classes from 8:30. Similarly, children will need to be collected by 3:15pm. They can go home and check in and come back to play.

Lunches - We don't yet provide an option for bought lunches. We would like you to support us to minimise waste by lunches that are, 'pack in, pack out'. Where possible containers are used instead of disposable bags. If rubbish is generated children will bring it home for disposal.

Kelly Club After School Care at Ararira Springs

Kelly Club After School care is starting at Ararira Springs School on Tuesday 5th February.

Our programme provides a great mix of activities for kids to get involved with including, sports, games, arts and crafts, baking and cooking, science and discovery, along with structured free play after a long day at school.



To book into our programme please visit www.kellyclub.co.nz/ararira or phone 021 029 59281 for further details.

We look forward to seeing you!

PTA - Friends of the School

We have had a few interested parents approach us about establishing a PTA - Friends of the School Organisation. This is something you might like to consider but needs to be an initiative driven by parents and supported by the school. If you are keen to drive this contact Claire and we will organise a meeting for later in term 1.

We look forward to working with you as the year progresses.

Claire Howison

Claire Howison - Tumaki | Principal