

QUEENSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Te Kura Tuatahi o Tahuna



New Entrant Information

NEW ENTRANT ENROLMENT

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Queenstown Primary School. Please fill out the required forms and bring them to the school office. We would appreciate the enrolment procedures being completed at least four weeks prior to your child turning five.

For enrolment to take place, the following completed documents are legally required:

School Enrolment Form

Immunisation Certificate

Well Child Service - Child Health Information Form
(available from the school office)

Community Oral Health Service - Application for Free Dental Care
(available from the school office)

School will also need to sight your child's birth certificate/passport (or student visa if applicable).

Once enrolment has been confirmed, we will contact you up to two weeks before your child's start date.

To help your child with their transition to school, two classroom visits (on separate days) will be arranged.

- 8.55am - 1.30pm (this will include morning playtime and lunch break)
- 12.15pm - 3pm (this will include lunch break)

WHAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO START SCHOOL

- A BIG School Bag
 - A back pack (with zips rather than buckles) is the most practical.
- School Uniform
 - Refer to the Parent Information Booklet or school website for more details.
 - It is important that you name all clothing items, including socks and shoes.
- Black School Shoes
 - Velcro instead of laces are perfect for young children.
 - Shoes need to be practical for their daily exercise routines.
- Coat for cold days
- Spare Clothes
 - Accidents can happen from time to time so it is a good idea to pack some spare underwear and clothing for those 'just in case' moments. Let your child know that they are there. The office has very limited clothes for loan in these circumstances but if your child does come home in borrowed clothing, please launder and return them promptly.
- Stationery
 - A New Entrant Stationery Pack is available for purchase at the school office. This pack includes all of the stationery your child will need for school use.
 - We recommend that you cover the exercise books as this will help protect them as well as making them easier for your child to identify in the classroom.
 - A pencil case is not required.
- Book Bag
 - This is included in the cost of your stationery pack.
 - Your child is able to choose the colour of their book bag at the school office.
- Sunhat
 - Sunhats are compulsory in Term 1 and Term 4.
 - Regulation sunhats can be purchased from the school office or when you place your uniform order.
- High Visibility Vest
 - A complimentary vest is available from the school office when you enrol your child.
 - This vest needs to be kept in their school bag as it will be worn to walk to and from school and for all school outings.
- Morning Tea and Lunch
 - All students are supervised during lunch and we endeavour to ensure your child has eaten sufficient food. Please ensure that your child can open all of their containers independently.
 - Being an Enviro School, our aim is to reduce waste and rubbish. We discourage the use of gladwrap or pre packaged food items. We also encourage students to take home their leftovers and rubbish.
 - Please provide a water bottle daily. These can be refilled at school throughout the day if necessary.

Starting school can be a daunting task for children.

We recommend that you develop some morning routines both at home and at school.

- Arrive at school early to allow plenty of time for parking – children can get flustered when they are late. **All school parking information is in the Parent Information Booklet and on the school website. Please read through the parking guidelines carefully.**
- Give your child a sense of responsibility by allowing them to carry their own school bag.
- Your child has some responsibilities before the bell rings at 8.55am - they get to know these routines quickly and enjoy their independence. Their jobs are to hang up their school bag, place their lunch box on the shelf and unpack their own book bag.

NEW ENTRANT LEARNING PROGRAMMES

MORNING ROUTINES

- Roll call, notices, lunch orders
- Student News
- Newsboard

ORAL LANGUAGE

Oral language is the foundation of all literacy programmes. For children to be able to read and write, they need to be able to talk about their experiences and learn to ask questions to further their understanding of the world around them. Programmes are delivered to allow children to become fluent, confident speakers, excellent listeners and critical thinkers.

READING

Regular guided and shared reading is featured strongly in our programmes. Early reading focus is on meaning with use of picture cues. As children develop their knowledge of reading strategies, they will begin to read successfully. You are your child's best role model - read to them regularly and let them see you reading!

WRITING

The emphasis of writing at Junior School level is on students writing about personal experiences. Students are encouraged to begin their own stories - they know exactly what their squiggles say! Students are introduced to the Junior School writing criteria and quickly learn about the learning intentions they are working on. This method encourages independent writing, with students responding positively to feedback given by their teacher.

SPELLING

Essential spelling lists and phonological knowledge is a daily routine in the Junior School.

MATHEMATICS

The programme has a major focus on number knowledge, covering writing and recognition of numbers up to 10 and beyond, ordering numbers and knowing groups within 5 and 10. This is a language based, hands on programme with total involvement and interaction.

INQUIRY

Inquiry learning includes social sciences, science, technology, health and visual and performing arts.

PMP – PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAMME

This is a movement-based programme that concentrates on the development of perception and language through a series of planned activities. The objective of the PMP programme is to improve a number of skills such as language, concentration, concepts of print, social skills, behaviour and motor skills. PMP is incorporated into weekly learning for New Entrant and Year 1 classes. Parent help is required for some lessons.

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE JUNIOR SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Music

Physical Education (this includes a 3 week swimming programme and a 6 lesson ice skating programme)

Daily Fitness

Outdoor Education

AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Important messages and notices are discussed in the classroom at the end of the school day therefore teachers need the students attention at this time. It would be appreciated if parents remain outside the classroom until class is dismissed.

BOOK BAGS

Your child's book bag is used to simplify the communication between school and home. It needs to be checked each night for items such as:

- School notices
- Daily homework 'Reader' – ask your child to share this book with you. It will need to be returned to school the following day.
- Spelling Notebook and Homework Book - these come home on Monday and need to be returned, completed on Thursday.
- Exercise books – these will come home regularly. Please take the time to talk through your child's work with them. They will need to be returned for the next school day.
- Library Books - please take the time to share the library books with your child and ensure that they are returned to school on 'library day' ready for exchanging.
- On Friday's you may see a number of reading books in the book bag for you to read over the weekend. They will need to be returned on Monday morning.

LASTLY...

Your help can be invaluable. We recommend that you give your child at least a month to settle into the school environment before you become involved in 'parent help', as some children find it difficult to share their parents/caregivers with other children in the classroom. Please talk to your classroom teacher to organise a suitable time.

Transition to school can be a big step for some children. It can be hard for them to concentrate, sit still, follow instructions, make new friends and then do it all again the next day...and the next! To set your mind at ease, children are usually 'perfect' at school, but can turn 'perfectly horrible' when they get home! This is normal and it doesn't last forever. It is a good idea to have food ready for after school, then give them time to 'chill out' before you expect homework tasks to be completed.

It is only human nature to compare your child to siblings, children in the class or children you may know, but please keep this quote in mind,
"All children learn but not in the same way and on the same day".

All Queenstown Primary School staff have a passion for learning and their aim is to nurture your child's potential and to ensure school is a happy and positive experience for them.

If you have any concerns please come and have a chat with your child's teacher or Julie Walker, Junior School Team Leader.

The Mirror - Making the Grade

The Mirror invites you participate in the 'Making the Grade' section of their newspaper, where they include photos of children on their first day of school.

- o Your child must be in their school uniform.
- o They require a full length body shot.
- o Photo must be at least 1000 kilobytes in size (you may need to set your camera to take bigger photo sizes).
- o Email to mirror@sti.co.nz Please put 'making the grade' in the subject line and in the content, include your child's full name, the name of the school and their start date.