



Kōrakonui School

KickStart

*Our Before School Programme
for 4 year olds*

Alphabet
Knowledge

Sound
Knowledge

Basic
Writing

PMP
Our junior movement
programme

Number
Knowledge

Rhyme
& Songs

Our School
Values:-

Respect
Integrity
Excellence

Visiting
Te Kawa
class



KORAKONUUI SCHOOL

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Meet Our Junior Leadership Team 2025



Kathy Graham
Teacher: Te Kawa



Heather Cork
Teacher: Mangatutu



Alana Phillips
Release Teacher



Lizelle Buckley
Learning Assistant

Welcome to Te Kawa Class, where every day is a new adventure filled with exciting learning opportunities.

We're excited to welcome your preschooler to our inclusive and friendly new entrant class. Te Kawa Class is all about creating a positive and structured environment, with clear routines that set our junior students up for long term success.

In our class, every child is valued and embraced for who they are. Our goal for the Kick Start programme is to make the transition to school a joyous experience for both kids and parents.

We've got a warm and welcoming atmosphere, ensuring that your child feels right at home from the start.

Our days are filled with engaging activities designed to spark curiosity and foster a love for learning. With a focus on clear routines, we provide the stability that little ones need to thrive.

We can't wait to share in the excitement of discovery with your child and build lasting friendships together. Welcome to Te Kawa, where each day is a step towards a bright and happy future!

Preschool Visits

This programme is designed to help the children prepare for school, to allow them to build relationships with the teaching staff, and their fellow students, develop confidence in class, become familiar with the layout and facilities of the school, experience some school activities and routines.

We encourage all new pre-school children to have three visits prior to starting school.

Visits are on Friday, in the new entrant class called Te Kawa. Kathy will contact you with start dates.

- **First visit** from 9am-10am. This is a short stay to form initial connections. Parents are encouraged to stay in class with their child.
- **Second visit** from 9am-11.30am. Experiencing a full morning in class and forming peer relationships over morning tea. (Bring a healthy snack). Parents are encouraged to drop their child off in class, but remain onsite. You are welcome to wait in the staffroom until the session is finished.
- **Third visit** from 9am-11.30am. This session will expand into other curriculum areas and into morning tea time. (Bring a healthy snack). Parents are encouraged to drop their child off in class, but remain onsite. You are welcome to wait in the staffroom until the session is finished.

During your visit, please call in to the office to collect an enrolment pack

School Bag & Lunch Box

Things to pack for school (all named) - a raincoat, drink bottle, change of clothes, Book Bag, lunch box and a bucket/wide brimmed sunhat (compulsory in Terms 1 and 4).

Lunch Box - Healthy snack - *this could be a piece of fruit or a vegetable*. Healthy food for morning tea and lunch. Please do not include lollies, chocolate or fizzy drinks. Water is the preferred drink at school.

The School First Day

... some helpful hints

- Help your child to get a good nights sleep the night before, and get up in plenty of time to get ready for school.
- Give your child a healthy breakfast.
- Aim to arrive at approximately 8.45am. This will enable your child to connect with friends before school and help settle in to the classroom. The first bell to start class goes at 9:00am.
- Remember parents also may feel unexpected emotions when a child starts school, such as nervousness, anxiety and grief. This is okay and normal.
- Make goodbyes short. Settle your child into class, say goodbye and then leave. If your child is upset, please relax and continue to leave. If you appear upset or anxious, this may affect your child. *Teachers have a lot of experience in settling upset children. In most cases children settle after 2 to 3 minutes of a parent leaving. If your child does not settle we would notify you, so please do not worry.*



Some Common Questions

What if my child finds it hard to make friends?

Talk to your child's teacher. There are strategies we can use to help them make friends. It is also a good idea to organise 'play dates' after school or in the weekends with other children from the class, who your child feels friendly with.

When will my child start to get homework?

Once your child has settled into class, they will start our homework programme. This settling in period is different for each child, but typically can take about four to six weeks. Initially homework begins with learning letters and sounds. Once your child has learned initial reading skills and behaviours, they will bring a reading book home. This is a book that they would have read with the teacher. Sit somewhere quiet and comfortable, help your child to re-read the book to you. They should be looking at the pictures to help them read the words they do not know. Ask them to re-tell the story to you, but most importantly, reading should be fun, so if it is too difficult or causing problems at home, please talk to your child's teacher.

How often do we get school reports?

You will receive a mid-year report and an end of year report, we also hold parent interviews towards the end of Term 1.

Who can I talk to if my child is having problems?

Firstly, make an appointment to see your child's teacher. It is best to do this rather than pop in and hope to talk before or after school, as they will be busy preparing or greeting other children. Your child's teacher may refer you to our SENCO (Special Education Needs Co-ordinator) or another school leader for a chat.

What do I do if I am worried about my child's progress?

All children progress at different rates. Try not to compare your child's progress with other children or siblings. If your child's teacher is worried about your child, they will communicate with you, but again, please talk to your child's teacher if you have any concerns.

Guide For New Entrant Skills



One of the most important things for new entrants to learn, is to be independent and responsible for themselves.

Things such as carrying their own bag, checking they have everything, finding missing shoes etc, are all great ways to support their independence

Before your child starts school, it is helpful if they can:-

- Recognise their name and write it
- Be toilet trained and wash their hands
- Recognise some letters and some numbers to 10
- Know basic colours and shapes
- Carry their own bag into school and open their lunchbox
- Put their own shoes on, tie shoe laces if they wear lace-ups
- Blow their nose
- Recognise when they are thirsty and get a drink of water
- Dress themselves and put items of clothes away in their school bag (e.g., jumper or raincoat)
- Sit down for a short time and listen, able to follow instructions
- Manage scissors, crayons, glue stick
- Count and recognise numbers to 10
- Recognise both lower and upper case letters



- Play kindly with other children
- Express an idea or a feeling
- Share items they are using
- Be comfortable being away from you
- Take turns and know how to wait for things
- Use their manners

Our School Day

Morning Block 9:00am - 11:00am

(10am - children have a 10 minute healthy snack break)

Middle Block 11.20am - 12.45pm

Afternoon Block 1.30pm - 2.50pm

Term Dates 2025

Term 1– Monday 3 February - Friday 11 April (11 weeks)

Term 2 - Monday 28 April - Friday 27 June (9 weeks)

Term 3 - Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September (10 weeks)

Term 4 - Monday 6 October - Friday 12 December (10 weeks)