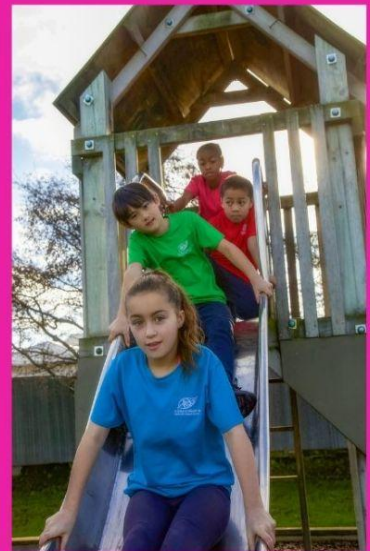


# School Life @ Whare Pā



# Welcome to Te Kura o Whare pā

Fernworth Primary

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***Our school vision is Whakapono - Manaakitanga***



*There are two parts, the green part and the blue part.*

*The blue top part is Whakapono being self-belief and confidence. It is about self, there is one singular koru.*

*The bottom green part is Manaakitanga being respectful and caring for each other. As it is about others there are multiple koru.*

*The whale tail at the base of the fern is a nod to our local marae, Murihiku.*

## Things you need know

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### School Hours

All students are encouraged to be at school by 8.40am to be ready for learning at 9.00am.

School hours are:

9.00am School begins
11.00am to 11.20am Morning break
12.30pm to 1.20pm Lunch break
1.20pm - 3.00pm Hubs

For your information - We aim to make life as user friendly for students and their whanau as we can.

- Students are welcome to be on site as long as a staff member is there always by 8am.
- After school care is onsite run by the YMCA. You can contact them on 03 2182989 Opt #5

### Absences

As you will be aware, in order to achieve, students must be at school whenever they are well.

The school monitors attendance and unexplained absences are followed up.

- If your child is absent please phone 216 9659 any time (you can leave a message on the answerphone) before 9.00am so we know where everybody is.
- You can also email [office@fernworth.school.nz](mailto:office@fernworth.school.nz) to advise if your child is going to be absent.
- It is a big help to us if you explain the reason for the absence. This helps us keep track of what is going on.
- If a child is taken from school during the day, please sign them out at the office using the Vistab.

### Behaviour

- Our focus is on learning and so any behaviour that impacts on this requires redirection.
- Whare Pā has an emphasis on natural justice and the expectation is that the consequence is to be relevant to the offence.
- Any child who physically hurts another child intentionally or because of silly behaviour is removed from the playground for two morning breaks and two lunch times. These times are supervised and recorded. If the behaviour is ongoing it may result in parent meetings or stand-downs.

### Book Bags

New entrants are given a book bag as part of our Duffy Books in Schools scheme. These bags help protect resources from spills in school bags. Book bags are required at school each day from new entrants to Year 6.

### Camps

Year 6 students will attend our annual camp. These will be held at Camp Columbia and parents/caregivers are asked to cover the cost of these.

## **Communication**

We will call you if there are any issues or concerns about your child at school. Regarding behaviour, it is important that all parents/ whanau understand that most students at some stage are going to make mistakes – it is how they deal with these that matters most and that they learn from them. We all need to work together to make this happen. Please feel free to be in touch with us if you have any concerns about what is happening at school for your child or if you think there are things going on that we are not aware of – we can only deal with what we know about and things are far better dealt with early before they escalate.

## **Newsletter**

This is our primary source of contact with parents to let everybody know what is going on. This is emailed to you every second Thursday.

## **Facebook**

We also have a facebook page where we put up other wee bits and bobs. You do not need a facebook page of your own to view ours. It can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/ferworthprimary/>

## **Instagram**

### **Cultural**

To reflect the cultural diversity among our students, the whole school participates in kapa haka and siva. We are fortunate to get the opportunity to have some students perform at the local Polyfest once a year. Those that choose to, and are selected for the teams can also compete in Nga Putangitangi, the kapa haka performance competition once a year.

## **Duffy Books in Homes**

The Duffy Books in Homes scheme encourages reading and the love of books. Students are able to choose up to seven free books a year. As a Duffy school, well known role models who also have a love of books visit to present the books to the students each term and share with the students how they set and meet their goals. Each year the excellent Duffy Theatre Production visits our school to perform their drama to the students.

## **Emergency Drills**

Emergency procedures are practised each term. If you are in the school when this occurs you are expected to follow staff instructions. The assembly point is out on the field beside the obstacle course on the east side.

## **Enrolment**

Before enrolling we like to talk with you and show you our school so that you can be sure that it is a good choice for you. If your child is five and starting school for the first time, pre entry visits are encouraged and can be arranged by contacting the school office.

Please bring their:

- Birth Certificate
- Record of child's immunisation or Well Child Book.

## **Fruit in school**

We are very fortunate to be part of the Ministry of Health's Fruit in Schools initiative. This means that we receive free fruit to allow us to give every child a piece of fruit every day.

## **Homework**

Homework from us will never be anything new – it is consolidation and practice.

We ask for your help with 3 things.

1. Reading- In all rooms reading instruction is carried out at school but students need to reinforce their reading skills with reading mileage. This may mean you reading to your child, or with your child, or your child reading to you.

2. Maths– basic facts flashcards – these are designed to take no more than 5 minutes. There is no requirement to do the entire set every night if they are taking too long.
3. Spelling- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights every student will have a list of words to practice. It is preferable that they practice writing these down rather than doing it orally. If they get a word incorrect, they should write it out 5 times correctly. The 5 year olds also have a phonics sound for the week.

Families lead busy lives and we do not want to add stress to this, especially as involvement in other things is also important for the development of a well rounded child. Please see your child's teacher if you have any concerns with homework.

### **Hubs**

4 afternoons a week the students are mixed into mixed age/ tuakana-teina groupings to do their learning. The 4 Hubs are: Active Recreation, Manufacturing, Enterprise and Environmental. All Hubs cover the curriculum areas of Science, Social Sciences, Technology, Health and PE, The Arts.

These are designed to really allow kids to get involved in their learning - to be interest based, foster positive relationships with a range of students, grow leadership, provide hands-on learning experiences, and integrate real life contexts.

All learning has a purpose and skills are taught through our own Inquiry process. The teaching is done using our Inquiry Process of Determine, Discover, and Deliver!

### **Lunches**

There are a couple of options other than bringing along a packed lunch:

- **Heating things in the pie warmer** – lunches to be heated must be wrapped in tinfoil or paper with your child's name and class clearly written on them. Heat ups are free and need to be dropped to the canteen before school. The canteen is located in Rm 3.
- **Ordering lunch from the canteen:** A list of items and their cost is available at the canteen. Money for lunches should be brought to school in an envelope labelled with your child's name, room and lunch order written clearly on the outside.
- **Free school lunches:** Lunch will be provided for all students everyday at school. Monday - Thursday will be provided by Lee's Catering and Friday will be Pita pit.

### **Lost Property**

Students are encouraged to check the lost property box if clothes are lost. Parents/ whanau are welcome to come in and fossick through this at any time. Naming clothes can be a good idea as it avoids confusion! At the end of each school year any unclaimed clothing is given to a local charity.

### **Reporting to Parents**

- Start of Term 1 and 3 - 3 way Interviews will be in the first few weeks of the term involving the child, teacher and whanau, looking at learning goals for the first half of the year
- Other reporting is ongoing on Hero with new samples going up approximately once a week. We will get you logged on to this when you enrol your child.

### **School Events**

Several times a year we run school events such as sharing nights, BBQs etc. These are usually run at 5.30 and do not go longer than an hour. Our aim is to encourage whanau into the school and to make these as laid back as possible. It is great for our learners to have whanau and wider family come along to these – everybody is welcome!

### **School Stationery**

You need to pay us for school stationery at the office. We have a cost for the year and provide everything.

### **Social Worker in Schools (SWIS)**

We have the services of a social worker (who works for Barnardos not CYFs) a couple of days a week. She is available to work with children who need assistance in dealing with a whole range of issues from changes/ relationships at home, grief and loss, social or self esteem issues, behavioural concerns. Please let us know if you would like your child to use this service and we will see what we can arrange.

**Sport**

Our School willingly fields teams in a variety of sports but this is dependent on enough players and coaches. If you are willing to help please don't be shy. We have netball teams, miniball & hockey teams entered in local competitions.

**Students' toys and games**

We do not encourage students to bring to school valuable or costly toys or other possessions. Parents should understand that we must adopt an "all care, but no responsibility" attitude.

**Swimming**

Swimming will be at Splash Palace in Terms 1 for all students. Adult assistance with supervising small groups of students in the pool is appreciated.

WELFARE:**Medication**

If medication is needed at school, they must be handed to the office and a form signed to allow staff to oversee giving the medication if that is required.

**Mental and Emotional Safety**

In all areas of the school we maintain an emphasis on raising self esteem, developing friendships, eliminating bullying, encouraging collaboration, respecting difference and disability, and developing skills to resolve disputes. These attributes are best fostered with positivity that focuses on students' strengths. If you have any concerns about issues at school regarding emotional safety, please feel free to come in at any time and see your child's teacher about it. We work really hard to ensure all issues we are aware of are dealt with.

**Sickness at school**

All parents are required to give emergency telephone numbers in case their child becomes sick while they are at school. Please make sure these contacts are kept up to date as it is tricky when a child needs to go home and we are unable to reach anybody.

**Sun Safe**

We strongly encourage the wearing of appropriate sun protection (hats, glasses, sunblock) on hot days, as when the weather is lovely, it is great to have the students outside. It's a good idea to pack a spare change of clothes in your child's bag.

***Every day is a new day with new opportunities. Everyone has the right to a clean slate.***