

The Carew Peel Forest A-Z

ATMOSPHERE: Carew Peel Forest School prides itself on demonstrating a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. Working together with children and caregivers, we offer a safe and secure, nurturing and caring family environment. We have developed school expectations around our “Caring for ..” statements. These incorporate the Values and Key Competencies of the New Zealand Curriculum. They are woven into our learning programmes, and social and personal life at school.

AFTERNOON TEA / SUPPER: It is a rural tradition to have a “cuppa and natter” following school functions. Generally families donate a plate of food. Information will come out in notices about the function.

ATTENDANCE / ABSENCES: Absences should be phoned or txt through to school before 9:00am with an explanation for the absence. If we do not receive notification and an explanation, please expect to be contacted. Attendance information is recorded on an electronic system. If you know of a planned absence in advance, please be sure to let us know.

BELL TIMES:

08.55am Class time
10:00am Interval
10:20am Class time
11:20am Fit / Fruit / Milk break
11:30am Class time
12:30pm Lunch
01:20pm Class time
2:55pm Home time



BOOK CLUB: Lucky Book Club is available on-line. You are encouraged to make your purchase on the Scholastic website - the details are on the catalogues that come home.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: We are governed by the Geraldine High School / Carew Peel Forest combined school Board of Trustees. **Mission Statement:** *“Governance under one Board so that each school’s own identity and culture are maintained”*. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday each month. Parents are welcome to attend. The Carew Parent Trustee on the Board reports to parents via the school newsletter.

BUSES: Carew Peel Forest School owns and operates 3 buses and employs 4 permanent drivers. We provide bus transport within our transport zone (TEZ) over a widely spread geographic area – Carew district, Orari Bridge, Rangitata Ealing, Arundel, Peel Forest, Rangitata Gorge. This service is managed by a small committee, which includes the Principal, and a representative from both the BoT and Home & School. Please refer to our website transport page to determine transport eligibility. Parents and children are required to complete a bus code of behaviour agreement. We request that you inform the driver in the morning if your child does not require the bus. Likewise, the school requires written or verbal notification, which is recorded in the bus notebooks, if your child is not going to need the bus after school. We are unable to make changes to the bus lists without parents express permission (other parents cannot offer to take children home unless we have heard from the parent).

CALF SCHEME: A very successful, long-standing fundraiser whereby calves bought by the Home and School Association, and / or donated by farmers, are grazed and fattened by other farmers. A Home and School representative may contact you about this possibility. CURRENTLY ON HOLD DUE TO MPB.

CLASSES: Currently our school has 4 teachers and 4 classes. Piwakawaka and Pukeko make up the Huaketeretere Hub with Korimako and Kereru forming the Tarahaoa Hub.

Piwakawaka Y0-1



Pukeko Y2-3



Korimako Y3-4



Keruru Y5-6



Please note that year groups may change in each class from year to year as we try to keep our classroom numbers as low as possible.

COMMUNICATION:

Newsletters and Notices: A weekly newsletter comes out on a Thursday and is email to all parents and community members. Please let us know if you'd like to be included on the email list (carew@carewpeelforest.school.nz) Community members are welcome to contribute items or notices. Between newsletters any important school information is sent to parents on notices or via email. Newsletters and notices are also available via email and from our school website.

Office / Telephone: When no one is in the office, an answer-phone will operate to take in-coming calls. Our school office administrator works daily, 8.30am – 3.00pm.

Messages: A text messaging system (Flexibuzz) facilitates quick and easy transmission of messages when an urgent need arises. This message also appears on the front page of our school website. A phone system may also operate. Parents give their permission on the enrolment form for their home phone numbers to be displayed and issued to parents. Information on Flexibuzz will be given upon enrolment.

COMMUNITY: Though our community is widespread, it demonstrates a strong support and involvement, and pride for our school. We believe the connection between school, family and community plays an important part in the success of each child's learning. We encourage all new parents to become involved in school and community life.



COMMUNITY HALL: We are fortunate to have unlimited use of the hall next to the school. We use the hall for events such as fundraising evenings, discos, prizegivings etc. These events are advertised in the weekly newsletters.

CURRICULUM: Carew Peel Forest School has developed a localised curriculum that reflects the intent of The New Zealand Curriculum. Aspects of our curriculum are published on our website and a full hard copy is available from the office. Our school has a priority to providing high quality literacy and

numeracy programmes. Each term we plan an integrated curriculum topic as the focus for our afternoon study. This is a whole school focus where teachers and children are involved in the direction of the learning. There are many opportunities for co-operative learning and leadership development. There is a high expectation that all students will achieve to the best of their ability. Our staff is committed to participating in regular and on-going professional development.

DONATIONS & CHARGES: We do not ask for an annual donation. From time to time you may be asked to contribute towards the cost of a trip, or for a voluntary donation to a Home and School fundraising activity. This may be in the form of goods, a small donation, or, simply your time.



EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM - E.O.T.C.: We like to involve students in authentic learning experiences in our local environments. Other annual events may include: senior class camp, senior winter ski / skating overnight camp, junior sleepover, swimming lessons at the Ashburton Pool. We try to keep the cost to a minimum however we may ask for a parent contribution towards an event. Having our own school buses certainly helps with our mobility.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: Caring for our environment and understanding how everything in our environment is interconnected is a vital aspect of life at C.P.F School. An 'Enviroteam' comprised of student representatives from each class, take active leadership roles under the guidance of a teacher. Our school is an official Enviroschool (a nationwide sustainable schools programme run by the Enviroschools Foundation). In October 2015, our school obtained the prestigious Green/Gold award. We also work in partnership with D.O.C and our children have been honoured with the responsibility of being the Kaitiaki (guardians) of the Kahikatea Walk in Peel Forest. Many opportunities are provided for children to learn things in, about and for our special environments. We operate "reduce, reuse, recycle" practices across the school. Our children are actively involved in managing these systems including looking after our worm farms.



FACEBOOK: Our school Facebook page is updated regularly during the week with items of interests shared with the community. Upon enrolment, you will be asked whether you give permission for your child's image to be used. No surnames are ever posted.

GARDEN PROJECTS: In the spring, children are invited to register interest in a garden project. A community member judges the gardens in early December. The gardening cup and participation certificates are awarded at the December break-up function.

HEALTH: A **Public Health Nurse** visits the school from time to time. The nurse is available to assist parents with concerns and can be contacted by phoning Community and Public Health Ashburton.

Anne Rawson, our **Geraldine Educational Social Worker**, is available to help parents and children when they have particular concerns or difficulties. Pamphlets are available from school. Contact your child's teacher or the Principal if you'd like some support around this.

HOMEWORK: We require all children to use a book bag to safely carry home reading and library books, and occasionally, notices. Its important that children are able to read to another person daily. Each classroom has a slightly different homework programme and teachers will ensure that you know the expectations at each level.

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION: This body liaises with teachers and B.O.T in order to offer support to all aspects of children's learning at school. It is run by a very active and engaged group of elected committee members. Meeting dates are advised in newsletters and are usually held once a term. All parents are welcome to attend and are deemed members at the AGM.

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (I.C.T): We are well resourced with technology items. Each room has desktop computers, laptops, ipads, ipods, interactive data projectors and digital cameras. The school's infrastructure has been upgraded substantially and is connected to fibre. Teachers integrate I.T. into learning programmes and are continually up-skilling in teaching and learning in this area. Our children can learn in ways that were previously inconceivable. Tarahaoa hub are using devices for a lot of their learning and there is an emphasis on Digital Citizenship. This means continual reinforcement of responsible use of ICT and the internet.

LEARNING SUPPORT / ENHANCEMENT: Our school has programmes in place to cater for students who have particular learning needs. We are able to access support from other agencies when required and we employ part time support staff across the school to assist teachers to implement programmes.

LIBRARY: We are fortunate to have a spacious and well-resourced library. Children are encouraged to exchange their books on a regular basis. By arrangement, pre-schoolers are also welcome to use our library. We also have a parent information section in the library.

LOST PROPERTY: We encourage children to become responsible for their belongings so our lost property is kept to a minimum. To avoid loss, we strongly urge parents to name their children's clothing. At the end of each term, remaining unnamed items will be donated.

LUNCH TIME: Children are seated and supervised by the duty teacher for 15 minutes while they eat lunch. We encourage 'healthy food' lunches and water only for drinking. Our school practices waste reduction by encouraging the use of reusable containers. Children are requested to take home any wrappings and non-composting waste. A food warmer is available for warming food daily in Terms 2 and 3, and on Fridays only, in Terms 1 and 4. "Pie Bags" for putting food to be heated in are available from our office for a small charge.



NEW ENTRANTS: We welcome pre-school visits from prospective parents and their children. Please contact the school to gain further information on this individual familiarisation programme.

PARENT HELPERS: The school / home partnership is valued in our school and we welcome assistance in the classrooms, particularly in our literacy programmes.

PHOTOGRAPHS: A photographer visits the school annually in October to take school, class, individual and family photos.

PLAYGROUND: Our spacious and attractive grounds and equipment cater for all types of play. There is a paved central space with a spacious sand pit, native plantings and our very own 'river'. Further afield there is a large playing field; a large hard court area; an in-ground trampoline; a mud kitchen for "masterchefs", boards for creative hut building among the trees; and a refurbished adventure-

type playground with swing bars, mono-rail, slide, climbing wall, rolling barrel, shaky beam, tyre swing etc.

REPORTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: Our school has a comprehensive and informative reporting system that includes an Interim and End of Year written report. We encourage parents to meet with teachers as often as they feel necessary. Please talk with the teacher to arrange a time. If we haven't seen a parent during the year, we may contact you for a parent teacher interview. Seesaw is used across the school to share children's learning journeys. Please talk with your child's teacher about connecting.

SCHOOL PLANS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES: Our Annual Plans, Policies and Procedures are available at the school office. Parents are welcome to read this information. A Complaints Procedure is available on the school website and on the office notice board. Please ask if there is anything in particular you'd like to see.



SPECIAL EVENTS:

Parent Information : From time to time we take the opportunity to inform parents / caregivers about particular school programmes. These are either during the school day when parents can view programmes in action or at an after school meeting.

Pet Day: This special family and community event is traditionally organised in early Term 4 (October).

End-Of-Year Break up: This event is held during the last day at school and is an opportunity to celebrate learning throughout the year and to farewell our Year 6 students as they move onto High School.



School Picnic: Our school follows a tradition of having an annual picnic late in the 4th Term. If practicable we will try to combine this with our end of year break up. Families are encouraged to attend and join in the fun.

Others: We often combine with nearby schools so our students can experience and enjoy visiting cultural groups and theatre performances.

SPORTING EVENTS:

Athletic Sports: All children join in this event which is held in conjunction with Woodbury School.

Cross Country: Held each year mid-Term 2 with Woodbury School. The two schools take turns at organisation of this event.

Winter Sports: In Term 3 we join with Mayfield and Mt Somers-Springburn schools at Mayfield to participate in a range of winter sport activities.

Swimming Sports: Held in late February, this fun and encouraging event is a chance for the children to demonstrate their swimming skills. Also included is a mini-Tryathlon with a fun section for parent participation. Years 3 - 6 join with Mayfield and Mt Somers/Springburn schools for an event at the Ashburton Community pool.

Swim Week: This is held towards the end of the year, dates varying with availability of spaces. WE bus children into Ashburton daily for a week of lessons. Parents will be asked to contribute towards lesson costs.

SPECIAL NEEDS: We welcome all children at our school and pride ourselves on our inclusivity. If you have a child with special learning and/or developmental needs, we welcome your inquiry. Please contact the principal for an appointment and see what we can offer your child.

STATIONERY: We keep a small supply of essential items in the school office and can generally supply students with emergency needs. At the end of each year, information will come home with students regarding next year's stationery.

SUNHATS: a Sunhat is part of the school uniform and children are strongly encouraged to wear this outdoors at all times during the summer months.



SWIMMING POOL: Our double pool, complete with pool blanket, is set within the school grounds. It is surrounded by native plantings and has its own shade-sail area. Solar heating and tidy changing rooms enhance this superb resource. Swimming operates as part of our PE Programme and all children are expected to participate. Parents should contact the teacher by phone or a note if a child is unable to swim that day. In season, the pool is available to the community by way of a key hire system. These details are included in newsletters each year.

UNIFORM: The school has a uniform shirt, jumper and hat. This can be purchased from our Home & School group via the office. Pants, shorts and/or skirts should be navy blue and can be purchased at your preferred clothing store. Uniform information is provided upon enrolment. All uniforms must be paid for prior to issue.

VISION: In consultation with the community the school has prepared comprehensive vision and curriculum statements around our 'Caring for' approach that incorporates what is important for learning at Carew Peel Forest School and how it will be shaped. These are displayed in the school foyer and are also available on our school website.

WEBSITE: The school website is updated weekly with notices. The school calendar is also accessible via the website as is our Facebook feed.

www.carewpeelforest.school.nz

WORKING BEES: From time to time, or as the need arises, Working Bees are organised for general grounds tidy-ups. These are always well supported at Carew Peel Forest School. We encourage parents / caregivers to attend or alternatively, to arrange to do some tasks when it is convenient. Parents are welcome at any time to share in the care of our gardens and general pride in our school grounds.