



# Carew Peel Forest School Notice 31st January 2017

Welcome back to school for the 2017 school year  
to all staff, students and families

***Ngā mihi o te Tau Hou ki a koutou katoa***  
***Wishing you all a very Happy New Year***

It was great to have the children back at school today after the long summer holiday break, all decked out in their smart new uniforms enhanced by their happy smiling faces. We hope everyone is well refreshed and ready to go for another year of learning. The school environment, inside and out, is looking fresh, clean and tidy. We thank our caretaking and gardening team, Tim and Karen, and the Cleantime cleaning crew for their hard work in completing the beginning of the year spruce up while everyone else was holidaying.

We extend a very warm welcome to our new Y5/6 teacher Amy Waldie as well as five new students and their families - Devon Cunningham, Clara Caceres, Erika Meade, Mila Bruce and Liam Linklater.

We have started the year with 81 students and with enrolments over the year we expect the roll to grow close to 90. Below are the classes for 2017:

**Piwakawaka** - Pip Long Years 0-1, starting with 10 students and growing again soon!

**Pukeko**- Jayne Rayner, Years 2-3, 23 students

**Korimako** – Lesley Millar (Tues - Frid) and Kay Ward (Mond), Years 4-5, 21 students

**Kereru** – Amy Waldie, Years 5-6, 27 students

Our teaching team has spent considerable time in the latter part of the holidays preparing for the new term. We have a strong and experienced team, and I appreciate and value their skills, passions and interests and the commitment they give to their work. The children's needs and interests are always close at heart and they work hard to make learning real and fun for all, as well as closely monitoring progress and achievement.

Becs, Wendy and Beth will continue as our capable and valued and learning assistants in the classrooms, and of course we couldn't do without our multi-tasking, accommodating and friendly Lisa in the office.

We encourage and welcome active parent interest, support and involvement in what's happening at school. This is known to have a significant impact on children's progress. You will hear more about how you can help from your child's teacher.

We are all looking forward to the school year ahead – another busy and productive one for learning and one where we will see even more improvements and exciting additions and changes on the property front.

- Building consent has been issued for the new roll growth classroom. This will link to R3 which will undergo major refurbishment at the same time as part of the project. We hope building will get underway before the end of the term.
- Brent Jones and his team have worked their magic with their heavy machinery over the holidays landscaping the ex-school house site which will eventually become part of the grounds. A turning circle has been created for the school buses as well as an amazing bike 'pump track' which is like a spaghetti winding through the trees. We can't wait to use the area but we are not quite ready yet!
- Our learning for the year is based on the theme of '*Our River Rangitata - Ko Rangitata te awa nei*'. We will make the most of the many learning opportunities available as we follow this mighty river from its source to the sea.

Teachers will email a class letter shortly to introduce you to their classes. For the next week or so, classes will be re-establishing routines and care code expectations. We are aware of the 'summer effect' that impacts on some children's learning when they have such a long break; teachers will be working hard to get the children back on track.

We hope families will quickly get back into the normal home /school routines with earlier bedtimes after the long summer break. We need the children happy, fresh and ready for learning each day! Homework will start soon! You can find our school procedure in your child's Homework book.

## **Communication - Tiqbiz**

We're pleased to inform you that we have just launched a school app that we will be using to send out notices general updates, classroom updates, reminders, events, and much, much more! (This replaces our old txt system that now only goes to telecom users.) The app is called tiqbiz and is available on iPhone, iPad, iPod, Android Phone, Android Tablet and any other type of device or computer via a website version. We kindly ask that you download tiqbiz to one of these devices, register a free account then find our school and tick on the groups that apply to you. (Please refer to the attached pdf which will tell you what to do to put it on your phone.)

You'll receive all the information with a push notification – much like a text message directly to your device. Any last minute changes or reminders, we'll be able to reach you to keep you completely informed and up-to-date. The app has some great features that will allow us to get information through easily and quickly, you'll be reminded about important upcoming calendar dates, and everything we post can be translated into one over 100 languages!

The app is programmed to show icons that link to all of the online tools we use, so anytime you need to access one of these tools, you can do it easily via the app by clicking the icon that you need. You will also be able to submit student absence via the app now, authorised by your signature, electronically signed straight on the screen with your finger!

We expect this community engagement tool will improve our flow of communication and resources to you, so we very much hope you enjoy using it.

## **Change of address / phone numbers / emergency contact person**

It is important that you send updated information to the office if you have had any recent changes.

## **Stationery**

Class teachers will issue children with their requirements. Stationery will be charged to your family stationery account. If you prefer to purchase any items yourself, please let us know. In most cases last year's books will be used up first.

## **Parent Helpers**

We invite parents to help in classrooms during literacy or maths, or an area of your expertise! Please talk to your child's teacher if you are available to help.

## **Absences**

Please phone or txt, (or use the tiqbiz app), an absence through to school before 9am with an explanation of why your child will be absent. The Ministry require us to code all absences on our Student Management System. Lisa will phone parents if a reason is not given or if we do not hear from you. Please save her this time. To avoid disruption to learning, parents are encouraged not to take holidays during the school term, but if you need to do this, the expectation is that written notification in advance is given to Kay. You will also need to discuss plans with your child's teacher so that a learning plan can be formulated for your child to complete while on holiday.

## **School Buses**

With only a few changes in the roll from last year there should be little change to pick up and drop off times. In time as new students arrive there may be changes to bus routes and timetables. If your child is not requiring the bus in the morning, please let the driver know before his/ her leaving time. If this is not possible, please phone a family who is picked up in advance of your family to give the driver a message. If you need to make other arrangements for the afternoon, please send a note or leave a phone message to txt to the office, not the teachers (best before 2pm) If we do not hear from you, our procedure is for the child to go home on the bus.

As always, at the beginning of the year we will be revising our bus behavioural expectations and safety rules. We would appreciate if parents could also reinforce these at home. Give them a gentle reminder that they have given their commitment to good behaviour by signing a Code of Conduct form. Your child is required to wear the hi-viz vest provided by the school. Please ensure this is hunted out if your child's has gone astray over the holiday break.

## **Swimming Pool**

The pool looks very inviting on such a hot day today and so we are right into our swimming programme. We would appreciate after school users putting the covers on after use so the pool maintains its warmth for our school swimming lessons.

Class swimming is once again our main P.E. focus for a good part of this term. Please ensure children have their swimming gear everyday even if the weather is looking bleak as it's amazing how many days turn out brilliantly fine by noon! If, for health reasons, your child is unable to participate we would appreciate a phone call or txt.

We continue to use the Kiwi Swim Safe programme ([www.kiwiswimsafe.org.nz](http://www.kiwiswimsafe.org.nz)). **Tracey Hickman** is visiting once again on **Monday 13th February** to work with teachers and children over the afternoon.

**Kiwisport** - Students in Kereru and Korimako will be involved in Kiwisport each term. Further details to follow as events are coming up.

## **School Lunches**

Children are required to sit while eating and are supervised by the duty teacher during this time. At the start of the year, we once again remind you to provide your children with healthy food items for snacks and lunches (no sweets or sweet drinks please). If you are stuck for ideas we have pamphlets available at school.

Unwanted food items and any food wrappings are returned home. Food scraps can be put in the school worm farm bin. We encourage you to use lunch boxes with compartments so food doesn't have to be wrapped. The food warmer is in operation on Fridays only in Term 1 and term 4. Biodegradable bags to use in the food warmer are available at a small cost from the office.

The children should drink **water** (or milk) only at school and this is available from the drinking fountains. It is ok for your child to bring a water bottle, but it is important they take it home daily for cleaning and refreshing.

## **Fit and Fruit and Milk**

We continue to have this 10 minute break around 11.20am, at the teacher's discretion. The children have milk donated by Fonterra Milk in Schools Programme at this time.

**Sun-safe** - As part of our sun-safe procedure, all children are required to wear their school sunhat on sunny days. Sunscreen is available if needed, but please provide your own if you have specific requirements.

**Concerns or Complaints** - We have a Combined Board procedure for Concerns and Complaints. This is available on the school website and on the school noticeboard. Thank you.

## **School & Community Newsletter**

Newsletters will be emailed once a month, around the third week after the monthly BOT meeting. (Please let us know if you require a paper copy.) They are also posted on our website and may be sent out via Tiqbiz in the future. We welcome any items/notices for the newsletter and prefer these to be emailed to us.

## **Thanks from Essy**

Thank you to the Henson family (and any others who called by) for feeding Essy, our school cat during the holidays.

## ***Coming Up – dates to take note of***

**The Foothills Group swimming sports** involving our school with Mayfield, Mt Somers-Springburn, will be held on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 9.30am** at the Ashburton Pool. This involves all Yr 4-6 children and possibly some Y3s who are confident in a width event. Details to come.

## **School Swimming Sports / Tryathlon - Friday 3rd March**

**Exciting Camps!** - Preparations are underway and details will come home soon!

This year's **Y5/6** camp will be held at Aoraki Mt Cook **14 – 17th March**, staying at the Unwin Lodge. (Thank you to those who have offered to be parent helpers)

**Korimako Y4s** - an overnight camp, **March 16/17<sup>th</sup>**, at Glenmark Holiday Park, Timaru.

# **A welcome to 2017 fun gathering – picnic tea, games and performance Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 4.30pm.**

We hope that all school families will attend. See Home and school notice below.

## **Carew Peel Forest Home & School**

Welcome to the start of 2017! Hope you all had safe and happy summer holidays.

### **Uniforms**

Your child/ren will hopefully bring home today the fleeces that you ordered last year as well as shorts/skorts if you ordered them. The teachers will also be fitting them with the new navy school hats which are yours.

Please ensure you label all your school polos, fleeces and hats as with 80 so other kids with the same gear it would be a shame to misplace their uniforms.

If you require anymore polos or fleeces or need to swap sizes, please email Kirsty Shearer – [westmorlandfarms@xtra.co.nz](mailto:westmorlandfarms@xtra.co.nz) and she will source for you. We have about 5-10 of each size in storage and we will be placing bulk orders during the year to keep our stocks up and will send out an email to all parents/ caregivers before this happens so you are welcome to order more at that time, if not before.

### **Save the date:**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February we are having the Christchurch Court Jesters coming to Carew Hall to put on a family friendly show. Tickets will be \$40 for a family of 4, \$10 per extra child, and \$20 per extra adult. Doors open at 6pm – show to start at 6.30pm. Please purchase your tickets from the school office. We would like to have a fun afternoon before hand with a BBQ Sausage, tennis, cricket or swim, it's a great chance to meet the school community & other locals. Would love to see you all there. This is not a fundraiser just a get together to celebrate the start of 2017, the money will just be to cover our costs.**

All the best for a fantastic 2017 school year.

Regards

CPF Home & School Committee

**School will be closed for the Waitangi Day holiday on Monday February 6th.  
The term ends on Thursday 13 April. (Easter is part of the holiday break.)**

Here's to a fantastic 2017

Kind regards

Kay, Jayne, Lesley, Amy & Pip

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### **CPF Purpose**

To grow happy, confident well-balanced children by engaging them in vibrant, responsive and meaningful learning environments focused on relationships and connections. Expectations are high and learners are challenged and supported to achieve and shine.

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### **CPF Vision**

Welcoming, caring and inclusive  
Open-minded, high achieving and effective  
Adaptable, collaborative and creative  
Environmentally and community connected