

Otonga Road School

Transition to School Programme



At Otonga School we wish to make the introduction and transition to our school as smooth and enjoyable as possible for prospective four year old children as well as their parents.

Ready Set Go class

We offer a Ready Set Go class for four year old children every Wednesday afternoon.

This class runs for ten sessions from 1.15 (part of lunch time until 1.25pm) to 2.45pm each term. Prospective four year old children may elect to attend these as many times as they wish within the ten weeks prior to their entry to school. During these sessions, children become familiar with the school environment, classroom routines and etiquette, as well as meet others who they may encounter during their initial weeks at school. The children also enjoy fun jingles, rhymes, poems and songs with related activities in a class setting. They are then given a poem and an activity to take home to share with their family.

While the children are involved with the teacher, our Principal, Mrs Woon discusses with parents various aspects of the school dealing with a different theme each week. This is an opportunity for parents to be fully informed of the school's expectations, current education philosophies and to ask questions in order for parents to also help ease bridging the gap from home to school. Parents (who are legally required to accompany their child) then help with the children's activities in the classroom.

Themes for Parent Information Read-Set-Go Class.

- Session 1: Responsibility for Self– Routines, punctuality, property etc.
Expectations of children entering school. Enviro School
- Session 2: Relationships- Friendships (Otonga School Values)
Houses – Welcoming children from the four winds. Maori/ESOL/Gifted & Talented.
School Buddy Visits
- Session 3: National Standards – Reporting to Parents
- Session 4: Reading – to and with children making reading fun, home readers, etc
School Buddy Visits.
- Session 5: Early Writing – Pencil grip, lists, emergent stages, etc
- Session 6: Mathematics –Number, counting, problem solving, puzzles, etc
School Buddy Visits
- Session 7: Communication – Oral Language (Parent concerns/consultation/OSSG)
Visit from OSSG member. Sound field system.
- Session 8: Curriculum – Thinking Tools – SOLO – Inquiry learning – SLCs. Library & ICT
School Buddy Visits
- Session 9: Creativity – Arts – Art Centre
PMP – Fitness – Jump Jam – PE Exploration – Brain Gym
- Session 10: Dental health – visit to Dental Clinic with School Buddy.
Health – healthy playlunch/lunch options. Sunhats, sunscreen etc Behaviour Plan.

Classroom Visits

In addition, in the two weeks prior to their fifth birthday, we also offer children the opportunity to visit the class they will be in on Friday mornings at 8.55am – 11.00 am. The children will become involved in the morning class programme, bring morning tea, and then leave after interval.

Attendance at either or both of the above is optional. However for courtesy and organisational purposes we ask that you indicate your intentions on the form attached when you make your initial contact. You will also need to fill out enrolment forms which are available from the school office. We need to sight the birth certificate and immunisation certificate of your child.

Angela Donlon – Year 1 Senior Teacher