



Welcome to Mangatawhiri School,

The first day of school is a big day for everyone and can cover a whole range of emotions. It's scary, exciting and nerve-wracking. And that's just for mum and dad!

While it may be hard to say goodbye to your little one and hand them over to our care, there are some things you can do to make it easier on yourself, your child and their teacher.

Have faith in your child's teacher on the first day:



Teachers are trained in knowing how to deal with the tears and separation from Mum/Dad. Staying in the classroom too long, hovering around the door or peering through the window often just makes things worse.

Nits are normal:



Annoying? Yes! However, thankfully, also preventable.

- Children should have their hair tied up to prevent invasion
- Contrary to popular belief, nits can't jump, fly, abseil or bungee
- Its hair to hair contact that usually does it
- Teach your child to not share hairbrushes or put on other people's hats
- Drop a few drops of tea tree oil into a spray bottle with water and spray a few squirts around the ears and neckline every day
- This is a great preventative, without all the nasty chemicals



Talk to Me:

All issues relating to or about your child can usually be resolved with a quick chat to your child's teacher. Talking with other parents can often lead to a minor problem becoming a much larger one. Teachers are only human and often are not even aware there is a problem/issue. Good relationships are built on trust, honesty and respect, so the relationship you have with your child's teacher should be based upon these principles too.



Offer to help:

Teachers (especially junior teachers) love the offer of an extra pair of hands in the classroom.

- Making resources, cutting, sticking, putting away readers and all the other things that a busy teacher never seems to have the time to do!



Don't be a helicopter parent:

Hovering and helping your child to pack up their school bag after school isn't helpful. Children should quickly start a routine every morning of hanging up their own school bag and getting out

their reading bag, library bag, drink bottle etc. and putting them in the appropriate place in the classroom by themselves. This teaches self-responsibility that is beneficial to all



Label your child's clothes: _____

Teachers don't have time to keep track of 20+ pairs of shoes, jumpers, swimming togs etc. Please clearly name all clothing including underwear at swimming time.



Don't tie me down:

If your child can't yet tie their own shoelaces, then please buy the shoes with Velcro.



Empty your child's school bag:

Get into a routine after school whereby your child cleans out their school bag. There may be notices buried deep within not to mention left over lunch bits and pieces.

Special toys are for home: 

Please do not allow your child to bring any items from home. This can cause problems when precious items are lost or broken. School takes no responsibility for any loss or breakage.



Birthday Cakes are for home:

Please do not bring birthday cakes or 'treats' for class mates into school. These are best kept at home to be enjoyed.



Concerns:

At times children can cause unnecessary concern at home with stories about situations at school. These may concern other children or situations they have found themselves in with their teacher. These are almost always dealt with and resolved at school. If you have any concerns or queries, please talk to the child's teacher as soon as possible.

We look forward to working with you and your child to create the best possible learning environment while at Mangatawhiri School



Mangatawhiri School Team