

Enrolling Your Child

Before your child starts school a number of pre-school visits can be arranged. These visits are designed to make the transition from home or early childhood facility to school as smooth as possible. Please contact our NE teacher via the school office to arrange these visits.

When enrolling your five year old at Dorie School, you will need to bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and a copy of their immunisation certificate. Leigh or Sarndy in the school office will provide you with an enrolment form to complete. If you have arrived from overseas you need to have a copy of your child's current student visa. This information is a requirement from the Ministry of Education. If you are enrolling your child from another school in New Zealand, you will only need to complete the enrolment form. All information is treated in strict confidence.

Reporting to Parents

Teachers at Dorie report to parents in the following ways:

1. Meet The Teacher Evening - This takes place at the very beginning of the school year and involves a BBQ, socialising and mixing with other parents. Each teacher will outline their classroom programme, routines, etc. Parents have the opportunity to ask questions and speak to staff individually.
2. 3 Way Learning Conferences – You and your child will meet with the teacher to discuss achievement, next step learning goals and how these will be achieved. Conferences are held in June/July.
3. Written Reports – These are sent out at mid year and end of each year, giving a written summary on how your child is progressing at school.
4. Informal Meetings – Teachers may contact you or you may wish to contact your child's teacher to arrange a meeting to discuss their learning or any other issues.
5. Informal Observations – You may have the opportunity to see, first hand, your child in learning situations when you come along to school for assemblies, parent help, or to take part in special school events.

You are welcome at any time to talk with your child's teacher about how your child is progressing at school and how you can help them at home.

School Times

- School day commences at 8.50am
- Morning Tea break: 10.00 - 10.20
- Fruit break: 11.25 - 11.35
- Lunch break: 12.35 - 1.20
- School finishes at 2.50pm for buses to leave by 3.00pm

In general, children not travelling by bus should arrive at school no earlier than 8.30am to allow teachers their preparation time for each days lessons.



Bus Transport



Our school buses are administered by the Mid Canterbury School Transport Service (MCSTS). We currently have two bus runs. Information about enrolment, conditions and guidelines can be found at www.mcsts.co.nz

It is our school policy that students who normally travel home on the bus may not go home by any other means unless the school has been notified by note or telephone call from a parent/caregiver. In the interest of your child's safety, this rule is strictly adhered to without exception.

Parents Contribution

Parents are encouraged to be part of their child's learning and we appreciate all support. It is proven that children are more likely to do well at school when their parents are actively involved. Learning is a co-operative effort between school and home, and a crucial part of all of this is communication. The teachers at Dorie are always happy to talk about and discuss any matters relating to your child's learning. We always look forward to working with parents and caregivers as part of our school family.



Accidents or Illness at School

Parents or caregivers will be informed of any accident or sickness at school as soon as possible. Please inform the school of a contact phone number or caregiver should you be unavailable. The Principal will act in place of the parent until you can be reached.



Assemblies

School assemblies are usually held every second Friday from 2:15pm. Parents are most welcome to attend. At each assembly one class will be sharing some of the work that they have been doing with their teacher. Our assemblies are organised and run by members of the Student Council.

Education outside the Classroom (E.O.T.C.)

Our teachers are well aware of the need to make learning experiences as real and relevant to the students' world as possible. We are also aware of the need to expose our students to a variety of learning experiences outside the walls of the classroom. To help meet this goal we offer the following learning experiences;

- Toroa camp
- Science and Technology Road Shows
- Art Gallery and Museum visits
- Ski Day
- Pets Day – shared with Chertsey School
- Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country with Ashburton Christian and Rakaia Schools
- Speech Competition – with four other local schools



Health and Safety

The health and safety of the children in our care is paramount and we take all reasonable steps to ensure that everyone at Dorie School is working and playing in a safe environment.

If your child has any health problems or disabilities that may affect them at school, please make this known to the principal when you enrol. We have access to a number of health and helping agencies and are happy to assist where we can. Any medicines or prescribed drugs your child may need should be handed in to the office in a named plastic bag with instructions on dose and frequency etc.

Pam Eaden, our Public Health Nurse visits the school regularly, while dental nurses visit once each year.

Our school has a 'Safe in the Sun' Policy that states that children will wear school sun hats in the summer (Terms 1 & 4). These hats must be kept at school. We also have a shelter over the sandpit and shade sails for the eating area. Children are expected to have lunch in the sheltered areas and are encouraged to use these areas and other shade areas during sunny days. In summer, we recommend parents also ensure a daily application of sun-block before your child comes to school. We also have sunblock available at school.

Playground safety is a priority. All equipment is subject to regular safety checks.





Homework

Each classroom teacher will set home tasks that are appropriate to the needs of the class and individuals. This may include reading, spelling, basic facts, topical activities or current events. Reading at home is always useful to help build skills and develop vocabulary. Junior school children will have an emphasis on reading to and with you. Homework activities should be practicing skills learnt at school and a great time for you to share in and enjoy your child's learning. Homework should not be "stressful"!

Lost Property

Please ensure that all clothing is clearly marked with your child's name. Any items of clothing doesn't have an owner is put into the Lost Property Box, which is located in the school foyer and may be checked for missing articles at any time. Items of value should not be brought to school unless for special occasions and then should be given to the teacher for safe-keeping. The school accepts all care but no responsibility for lost property.



Music Festival

Every second year during Term 2 our senior children (usually Year 4-8) have the opportunity to participate in the Mid Canterbury Schools Music Festival, which is a massed choir event with other Ashburton schools. In 2025 our choir will be participating.



Newsletters

Our main newsletter is issued fortnightly on Fridays, with past and present happenings. Occasionally it is necessary to issue other newsletters and notices throughout the week. All newsletters and notices will be sent via Hero with a hard copy sent home if requested. You can also find our newsletter on the website.

School Lunches

Generally children bring a packed lunch to school from home. There is a pie warmer available for heating food which the children are welcome to use. Items to go into the pie warmer must be wrapped in tin foil and clearly named.



School Office

The School Office is staffed by 2 secretaries: Mrs Sarndy Vanderweg and Mrs Leigh Collinge. Sarndy is at school Tuesday 9am - 5pm. Leigh works on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:45am - 12:45pm. The answer phone is on at all other times and is checked regularly.



Sports

There are many opportunities for developing skills in a variety of sports, often with other schools as friendly games or more competitively, as representatives at County or Zone fixtures. Swimming, Athletics, Tennis ('O'Malley Cup' at Rakaia), netball, soccer, rugby, miniball and cricket are some options available and coaching and/or Saturday games are available for some sports as well. Ask at school for more information.

Stationery

The school office has a small amount of stationery available for purchase – mostly pencils, pens etc. for when parents are not able to get into town.



Swimming

During the swimming season the children are expected to bring their togs every day. Our pool is solar heated and teachers will use discretion regarding suitability of weather. Togs, towels etc must be kept in a bag and no togs, towels or combs are to be shared.

Technology

The school has a number of computers, laptops and iPads available in each classroom and our students have 'hands on' from their entry to school. Our computer system is networked which enables consistent access throughout the whole school. We have a BYOD system for the students in Years 4 - 8, where they are encouraged to purchase their own Chromebook to use in the classroom. Our students are exposed to all facets of technology throughout the year. Year 7 & 8 students also attend Manual/Technology Education in Ashburton one day per week for two terms.



Uniform

The school uniform is compulsory at Dorie. It can be purchased from The Warehouse in Ashburton and is very reasonably priced. The colours are navy and red with the Dorie Logo. Red sun hats with Dorie School may be bought from the school office and must be kept at school. Second hand uniforms are available – please see Terri or Sarndy in the office for details. We encourage our students to wear their uniform with pride. [You can view our uniform requirements here.](#)

Support Systems

The school has access to a number of support services in education, health and welfare. Please contact the principal if you or your child requires help in these areas.

Hero Communication App

One of our main forms of communication to parents is via an app called Hero. Please be sure to download this app on your phone and/or pc to keep up to date with what is happening at Dorie School.

Our Community

Dorie Community Pre-school

This is situated next to our school and is a registered pre-school catering for the needs of preschoolers of all ages. You can contact the pre-school on 3020989.

Rakaia Medical Centre Trust – Caring for our Community

Our modern two Doctor Medical Centre would like to welcome any resident in the Rakaia District and neighbouring areas to register as a patient with our Centre. Registration packs are available from Dorie School office.

Please contact us at (03) 303-5002 and one of our friendly staff will assist you and answer any questions you might have.

Available Services include: Doctor, Rural Specialist Nurses, Registered Nurses, Physiotherapist, Dietician, Podiatrist and a Counselling Service.

The Centre is open - Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm with late night Tuesday.

Dorie Charitable Trust

The Dorie Charitable Trust is the main fundraising arm of the school. The major fundraising activities undertaken are pea-straw carting and selling, and 'bobby' calves. The parents of the school and many others within the community participate in these ventures, and they usually turn out to be good social occasions - another opportunity for parents new to the school to get to know other parents and members of the community. The Trust is also the banker for the Dorie Dance and Dorie Social Tennis, and also supports other facilities in the area - the local church, hall, and tennis courts. The Trustees are

Steve Booker, Vickie Watson, Nicki Webster and Neil Brown

Use of School Facilities

Our school swimming pool is available for use during the summer months, outside school hours. If you would like to obtain a pool key please contact the school office. Keys are issued by the BOT for a small charge. You will need to complete an indemnity form to secure your key. You will also receive a set of guidelines for the pool's use.



The tennis courts are used on most Saturday mornings during the tennis season for competition play. The community is welcome to use the courts outside of school hours.

We ask that if you do use the school grounds that you respect them. Also note that under government regulations Dorie School is a smoke free area.

School Services available to the Community

We are able to offer the following services to the community for a small fee:

- Photocopying
- Binding
- Laminating

Please contact the school office for further details.

Our Contact Details

103 Dorie School Road

R D 11

Rakaia 7781

P: 03 302 0862

E: office@dorie.school.nz

W: www.dorie.school.nz

F: search for @dorieschool1 on your facebook browser