

## **Enrolling Your Child at RBS**

You can enrol your child at our school at anytime. We do encourage parents to enrol their child near their 4th birthday. This ensures that we can inform you of all the information you need prior to your child starting school.

### **RBS Reception Transition Plan (Visits)**

All children start school on their birthday and are offered three school visits before they start, but the option to have more is available if it is needed to help your child settle into school. This is arranged by the Transition Co-Ordinator prior to their starting date. An introduction letter with their visit dates will be sent to you via email and/or post prior to your child's 5th birthday. Visiting your child's class is a good way to help make the transition to school a happy easy time for your child. The visits are also a chance for your child to:

- meet and develop a relationship with the teacher
- meet and make friends with other children who will be in their class
- become familiar with the classroom routines and activities
- become familiar with the school environment
- begin to develop confidence to become independent at school

The first two visits are from 9:20am to 11:00am, where the children will experience being in the classroom setting environment. Then the next visit is from 9:20am to 12:00pm, where they will also experience being out in the junior playground during morning tea with the other junior children. Parents are welcome to stay for all or part of the first visit, and then they are encouraged to leave their child during the other visits. This is a flexible arrangement, and can be adjusted to suit the needs of your child.

Most visits are on Fridays where a more relaxed 'Pre-School' programme is run, which is different to the other school days. There will be some structured mat sessions, which will focus on learning early language and maths skills such as; alphabet sounds and numbers. These sessions are kept short, with the aim being to keep the children active with 'Play-Based Activities' such as play-dough, water & sand play, free writing & drawing, listening post, library book reading, cut & paste crafts etc. In this environment the children feel relaxed and can mingle with the other children who will be in their class, the teacher is also free to interact with the visiting children and help them feel secure in their new setting.

For their visits your child is welcome to wear their RBS school uniform – some get very excited about this! We have a school uniform shop with new and secondhand uniforms, ask at the office and they'll direct you to it. They will need a drink bottle with water, a mid-morning fruit or vegetable snack and a morning tea snack. It would also be handy to have their stationery organised before they start full time at school. A stationery list will be given to you on their first visit, or you can download one from our school website ([www.raumatibeach.school.nz](http://www.raumatibeach.school.nz)).

As part of our Transition Plan, we also offer and organise with the surrounding 'Pre-School' settings regular sessions where they can bring a small group of children who are about to turn five over to Raumati Beach School. During these visits we have story time and then free play out on the junior playground. This allows the children to enjoy and get use to the playground without all the other junior children out there as well.

Another way to help with your child's transition into school, is to bring them down to school to play on the playground during out of school times. We also have regular Parent Information Meetings each term, which is a great opportunity to meet the Transition Co-ordinator and ask any questions you may have about your child starting school.

If you have any further questions regarding your child's transition into school, please do not hesitate to contact me. The best way is via email: [bbrady@raumatibeach.school.nz](mailto:bbrady@raumatibeach.school.nz)