



Tenā koutou katoa

All new Redwood families are invited to join us on Friday 14th February at 9:30 to welcome new staff, students and their whānau into the Redwood School community.

A pōwhiri is a traditional Maori ceremony whereby the host people (tangata whenua) welcome visitors (manuhiri) to our "marae" - school. The process starts with a "karanga". Visitors are then led onto the "marae" (into the hall), where they will be welcomed by a haka. A short speech will be made by school staff. As a result of this encounter, the manuhiri are recognised as "friends" not "foe" and cease being manuhiri, but now count among the tangata whenua.

A "waiata" is sung and finally kai (food) is shared to complete the process. Traditionally this would be a hākari (feast), but at school we tend to share cake and biscuits.

RSVP is not required.

New families attending the pōwhiri are to meet outside the school hall just before 9:30am, where we will guide you through the ceremony, which takes approximately 20 - 30 minutes.

We hope to see you there!

