

# Enviroschools

TE TAI POUTINI

WEST COAST

TERM 1  
2017



## Kia ora koutou

Term 1 has begun with a flurry of excitement! After the anticipation of the first day back classrooms have settled allowing freshly curated plans to come to fruition.

Planning is the structure for this newsletter. The Enviroschools inquiry based **Action Planning Cycle** is your friend! The four stages encourage a process of exploration, decision-making, design, action & reflection. These stages are supported with guiding questions and suggestions for activities. Share it with staff, use to stimulate discussion with your students, and for planning. The blank template at the front of the Kit is fabulous for documenting your Enviroschools learning. Have fun!

Nga mihi nui,

Zoe Watson

## STAGE 1. Identify the Current Situation

### Scenicland's Waste Wall

On a recent visit to **Scenicland Pre-School & Nursery Hokitika**, this 'Waste Wall' was spied - a collection of lunch packaging over one week to capture parents attention and together find ways to minimise lunch waste. Stacey Brock, Scenicland Manager, said, "We've had a lot of comments from parents and staff have definitely noticed an increase in reusable yogurt containers coming to centre." Bring on the next waste audit Scenicland!



Above: Scenicland Hokitika waste wall.

## STAGE 2. Exploring Alternatives

### Enviroschools' Road Trips

Funding from the West Coast Community Trust enabled Zoe to take the lead teachers from each of early childhood centres to Christchurch, and Buller lead teachers to Marlborough in Term 4, 2016. Teachers spent the day touring bronze, silver and Green-gold Enviroschools to gain fresh ideas, sustainability practices and inspiration to incorporate back in their centres and schools.

**"The road trip was wonderful inspiration for all of us. I'm very excited to get back to school and share what I've learnt with my team." - Teacher**



Above: ECE Teachers visiting Cherry's on Maryhill, Christchurch.

### The Nappy Lady Workshop

The Nappy Lady, aka Kate Meads, presented a waste free parenting workshop to a packed out audience at WestREAP late 2016. Twenty eight people attended Ms Mead's workshop subsidised by Westland District Council and supported by WestREAP and Enviroschools.

Attendees learned a variety of ways to reduce waste at home, modern waste minimising household products, thrifty ways to save money and the impact their choices will have on future generations. They also received a cloth nappy pack valued at \$100. The feedback received was very positive, and most parents commented that as a result, they will alter their waste and recycling practices.





## STAGE 3. Take Action

### Eco Blue Fish for Town

**Kaniere School's** Envirogroup raised enough funds to extend their 'fish on drains' initiative to the Hokitika Business District and beachfront. The group were assisted by parents & helpers from Westland District Council and the Department of Conservation to install the fish around town as a reminder that all drains lead to the sea. Intrigued locals and tourists asked plenty of questions which the kids were pretty chuffed about. Envirogroup member Georgia Ritchie said, 'Someone else could have drilled the fish on, but because we did it, people are learning a lot more about the issues.'



Pam Wilson from Westland District Council assisting student

### Litter-less Lunch Launch

The Envirogroup at **Kidsfirst Kindergarten Hokitika** held a morning for parents to learn ways to reduce lunch box waste. Hilke Bruns, lead teacher, said that, "The event today was catered to inform our parents on different possibilities to pack a lunchbox without any waste packaging".

The Envirogroup provided some delicious waste-free lunch box fillers and informative displays including nutritional guidelines, reusable food wraps and a waste timeline. The Kidsfirst team have already noticed a reduction in non-recyclable packages in lunch-boxes.

Below: Waste-free lunchbox promotion at Kidsfirst Hokitika



## STAGE 4. Reflect on Change

### Visual Journey Creation

During November the Enviro Rangers from **Reefton Area School** created a mural of their Enviroschools journey with West Coast artist, Kate Buckley. In preparation for reflecting at Bronze later in the term, they recorded their journey so they could share their progress with their school community.

The students spent the morning creating a timeline of their activity and then drafted symbols to represent different stages of their involvement with the Enviroschools Programme. They painted these onto a koru based mural that will be installed at their school.

The lead teacher of Enviroschools at Reefton Area School, Kate Hawes said, "It was neat to see the culmination of our Enviro Schools journey represented symbolically by the students. Watching Kate lead them through the creative process was fascinating".



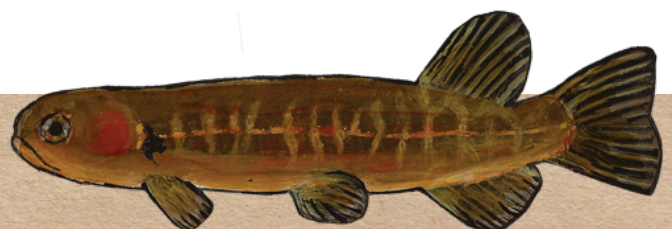
Above: Visual art installation created by Reefton Area School students

### Two new Bronze Enviroschools

At least every three years all Enviroschools undertake a holistic reflection of their sustainability journey. This identifies and celebrates the unique progress, achievements and shifts that they have made on their journey and identifies opportunities and needs that inform the next steps. During Term 4, 2016 **Kidsfirst Karoro Kindergartens** and **Reefton Area School** reflected on their Enviroschools journey to date and are very proud to announce that they have reached the Bronze stage of the Enviroschools

### Two New West Coast Enviroschools

A big welcome to our newest Enviroschools! **Westport Kindergarten** and **Kokatahi-Kowhitirangi School** have become part of the Enviroschools network. We look forward to seeing how you integrate the Enviroschools Kaupapa into your kura.





# Term 1 Calendar

Sustainability events and actions to support



## World Wetlands Day

*Any time in February*

[wetlandtrust.org.nz](http://wetlandtrust.org.nz)

[doc.govt.nz/nature/habitats/wetlands/](http://doc.govt.nz/nature/habitats/wetlands/)



## Bikewise

*All February*

Get on your bike! Visit Bike Wise for some great ideas to motivate your staff, students & whānau.

[bikewise.co.nz](http://bikewise.co.nz)



## Incredible Edible Food Talk

*Sunday 26 February*

Hokitika Community Gardens 10am

[incredibleediblegeraldine.blogspot.co.nz/](http://incredibleediblegeraldine.blogspot.co.nz/)



## Seaweed

*25 Feb - 5 March*

This years theme is "Toiora te Moana – Toiora te Tangata – Healthy Seas, Healthy People".

[seaweed.org.nz/](http://seaweed.org.nz/)

[doc.govt.nz/get-involved/conservation-education/](http://doc.govt.nz/get-involved/conservation-education/)



## Westland Waste Tour

*Thursday 2 March 3:30 - 5:30pm*

An informative and eye opening tour of Westland's transfer station and Butler's Landfill For Enviroschools staff. Please register with Zoe.



## Enviroschools Road Trip

*9 March*

Lead Enviroschools teachers take a jaunt to Christchurch for a tour of some inspirational Enviroschools.

Contact Zoe for more information.



# Westland Waste Tour

Kia ora koutou Enviroschools Kaiako,

Eddie Newman, the Waste Minimisation Officer from Westland District Council, is talking rubbish! Don't miss this opportunity to get the fascinating inside story of waste in Westland. This informative tour is highly recommended to strengthen your centre or school's commitment and practices in working towards Zero Waste.

**WHEN:** Thursday 2nd March

**TIME:** 3:30 – 5:30pm

**WHERE:** Meet at WestREAP, 72 Tudor Street, for a health and safety briefing, then carpooling to the transfer station and Butlers Landfill.

**WHO:** Enviroschools teachers & staff including caretakers and cleaners.

**COST:** No cost.

**BRING:** Sturdy footwear, water bottle, camera, and notepad.

**RSVP:** The name of the staff attending and if you have any dietary requirements to [zoe.watson@enviroschools.org.nz](mailto:zoe.watson@enviroschools.org.nz)  
Some delicious takeaway afternoon tea will be provided.

Register with Zoe by the 9<sup>th</sup> of February and be into win a Bokashi composting system worth over \$50!

Mauri Ora,  
Zoe Watson & Eddie Newman



In partnership with:



## Recycling Symbols for Classroom

Check out the **Wasteminz** website for new recycling symbols updated in October 2016 - great support in the lead up to a waste audit! These symbols used to be referred to as the RONZ symbols but are now known as the New Zealand Recycling Symbols. For information on why and how they were updated click [here](http://www.wasteminz.org.nz/pubs/ronz-symbols/). Download your set from [wasteminz.org.nz/pubs/ronz-symbols/](http://www.wasteminz.org.nz/pubs/ronz-symbols/)



Towels & Napkins



# ECE Enviroschools Hui Waitaha me Te Tai Poutini

Enviroschools Canterbury



Kia ora koutou Enviroschools Kaiako,

We are excited to invite you to our ECE Enviroschools Hui facilitated by Toimata Foundation's National ECE Coordinator - Katie Higgins.

Katie has been involved in the ECE sector since completing her ECE teacher training in Christchurch in 1997. Her professional career has taken her to Auckland to initially work at Starship Children's Hospital and then the Ministry of Education. During the past 7 years she has worked for the Auckland Kindergarten Association as a Senior Teacher and the Auckland Council as an ECE Enviroschools Coordinator. This work has enabled her to work alongside many Enviroschools and facilitators, supporting the kaupapa and facilitating a range of workshops for ECE Enviroschools. Recently she was employed to work for Toimata Foundation as the ECE National Coordinator where she works throughout Aotearoa supporting the Enviroschools network specifically in the ECE sector.

During this Hui you will have the chance to connect and share ideas with teachers from Waitaha (Canterbury) and Te Tai Poutini (the West Coast), be immersed in the Enviroschools kaupapa and related resources.

**WHEN:** Wednesday 10 May 2017

**TIME:** 11.00am-4.30pm

**WHERE:** Environment Canterbury, 200 Tuam St, Christchurch

**COST:** No cost, funding of \$200 per ECE is available to support you to attend. Please indicate if you would like to access this funding made possible by the Toimata Foundation.

**RSVP:** The name of the teacher attending and if you have any special catering requirements to [andrea.taylor@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:andrea.taylor@ecan.govt.nz) by 13 April. Places are limited so register early!

Mauri Ora  
Katie Higgins, Andrea Taylor and Zoe Watson



In partnership with:



Co-ordinating agency:

## Eco-friendly Fundraiser

**Kai Carrier** are reusable food pouches designed to make feeding fresh homemade food on the go easy, affordable and waste free. Their goal is to help others reduce their carbon footprint by providing a reusable storage solution which cuts out the need for single use packaging. Kai Carrier are BPA, Phthalates and PVC free making them safe for little ones. They are dishwasher safe making cleaning easy, microwavable, and can be stored in the freezer. They are also recyclable. Kai Carriers are offering products to us at a special fundraising price for you to on sell to families at our recommended retail price. For more information visit: [kaicarrier.co.nz/fundraise/](http://kaicarrier.co.nz/fundraise/) or contact Zoe.



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