

TE TAI POUTINI

WEST COAST ENVIRO SCHOOLS

BULLER DISTRICT - GRANITY SCHOOL - REEFTON AREA SCHOOL - ST CANICE'S SCHOOL - WESTPORT NORTH SCHOOL

GREY DISTRICT - KIDSFIRST KINDERGARTEN KARORO - RUNANGA SCHOOL

WESTLAND DISTRICT - KANIERE SCHOOL



Kia ora koutou

Got your winter chill on? Warm the cockles of your heart with the inspiring progress our West Coast Enviroschools' are making. There are lots of firsts in this newsletter - the first person to email Zoe the 3 firsts wins a prize! Make sure you check out our calendar to see events coming to your district.

Nga mihi nui, Zoe

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Haere mai, nau mai ki Toimata Foundation

The Enviroschools Foundation has changed its name to the Toimata Foundation. The two programmes currently supported by the Foundation, Te Aho Tū Roa and Enviroschools, are retaining their current names, logos and identities.

Over the past 15 years the Foundation has grown from supporting a handful of primary schools to supporting nearly 1,000 schools, kura and early childhood centres. The new name Toimata Foundation will support the continued growth of Enviroschools and Te Aho Tū Roa, as well as future new phases of development.

Toimata is a concept from Dame Katerina Te Heikoko Mataira. The name evokes ideas of creativity and craft, sustainability and vision. The takarangi design of our logo depicts all life nestled in the embrace of Ranginui and Papatūānuku and their love that flows to us here in the present, to all who have gone before and all generations to come.

Drum Roll Please...Bronze for Kaniere!

Kaniere School are the first West Coast Enviroschool to reach the bronze stage of the Enviroschools journey. They celebrated this milestone with the whole school planting native trees. Kaniere School has been focussing on sharing their learning with the community. Recently members of the Envirogroup conducted a waste audit at WestREAP, putting forward recommendations to help the organisation towards minimising their waste. Ka rawe Kaniere!



Above: Kaniere Envirogroup with the Bronze certificate

"I felt proud to take other people on a tour of our school and show them our Enviroschools work" - Siobhan, Kaniere School.
Age 7

"Since the workshop I now have a compost bin, sort my recycling properly, have changed my cleaning products and I'm in the process of getting rid of glad wrap"
- Attendee at the Waste Free Parenting workshop

Waste Free Parenting Workshop

Kate Meads, aka the Nappy Lady, ran her first ever West Coast workshop in Westport in April. Twenty participants attended the two hour workshop, learning about modern cloth nappy options and fun education around other ways to minimise waste at home with a baby. Not only that, attendees received a cloth nappy pack valued at \$100. A huge thank you to Buller District Council for supporting this successful event.



Blue Penguin Beach Excursion

A busload of Kidsfirst Karoro Kindergarten children and their parents visited Paroa beach for a morning focused on blue penguins. They were joined by Bill from the Paroa Guardians, Kate from DOC, and Zoe from the West Coast Penguin Trust. After an informative talk about blue penguins, children visited a nesting box and had a demonstration on setting a stoat trap. They then explored the environment with a beach themed scavenger hunt. The children were excited about their ideas to help blue penguins and the beach environment. Karoro are keen to develop these actions as part of their Enviroschools journey.



Above: Bill demonstrating the stoat trap to enthralled Kidsfirst Karoro tamariki.

Buller Envirogroup Action Day

Thirty students and the lead teachers from the Buller Enviroschools Cluster took part in the first West Coast Envirogroup Action Day. Students rotated around three activities focused on waste minimisation and biodiversity: YMCA meals (Yesterday's Meals Cooked Again) with Carol Up from Westport North School's Garden Warriors; Tree Planting/How nature biodegrades with Paul Comesky and Nick Moody from DOC; and Litter-less Lunch-boxes with Jade Winter from Community Public Health. The afternoon was spent brainstorming ways to take action on what they'd learnt once back at school. Feedback was positive and we hope to make this an annual event.

Below left to right: Making beeswax wrap; whipping up some frittatas; and getting stuck in planting trees at Westport North.



School Snapshot

Reefton Area School has been working hard to complete their **Whole School Vision Map**. This is a broad picture that everyone in the school agrees is the basis for creating a sustainable school environment. We look forward to seeing how this map informs your Enviroschools journey RAS. Tu meke!



Food Too Good to Waste

The average NZ household throws away 80 kg or \$500 of food waste every year. Love Food Hate Waste can help you reduce food waste and save money with hints, tips and tasty recipe ideas.

For more information on the Love Food Hate waste campaign go to <http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz/>

Zero Waste Cluster Meeting

Twenty staff from all four Buller Enviroschools got together for an afternoon on minimising waste across all of school life. Time was spent collaborating on ways to integrate and embed Zero Waste within the four key areas of school life: physical surrounding, operational practices, programmes, and organisational management. It will be great to see the progress made in your up-and-coming annual waste audits!

Check out the Teaching for Sustainability website for further learning experiences around waste. The waste timeline activity is brilliant for putting waste in perspective.

<http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Curriculum-resources/Education-for-sustainability/Learning-experiences>

Enviroschools Calendar 2015

TERM	MONTH	DATE	EVENT
2	Pipiri	18th	Matariki
	June	30th	West Coast Penguin Workshop: 'Take Action for Blue Penguins'. Westport: St Canice's School; 3:30-5pm. Register by the 22nd June with Zoe.
School holidays 6th - 20th of July			
3	Hōngongoi July	27th July - 2 Aug	Maori Language Week
	Here-turi-kōkā August	3-7th	Schools Peace Week www.peace.net.nz/content/school/
	Mahuru Sept	13-19th	Keep NZ Beautiful Week knzb.org.nz
		22nd	Car Free Day
		27th	World Rivers Day
School holidays 28th September - 12th October			
4	Whiringa-ā-rangi November	1-8th	Conservation Week http://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/events-and-awards/conservation-week/
		11th	Buller Reflection Meeting Venue TBC: 3:30-5pm
		25th	Grey/Westland Envirogroup Action Day Venue: Runanga School; 9:30am-2:30pm
	Hakihea December	2nd	Grey/Westland Reflection Meeting Venue TBC; 3:30-5pm
		9th	West Coast Penguin Workshop: 'Take Action for Blue Penguins'. Grey/Hoki: Venue TBC; 3:30-5pm.
		10th	West Coast Penguin Workshop: 'Take Action for Blue Penguins'. South Westland: Venue TBC; 3:30-5pm.

Highlights of the Nationwide 2014 Enviroschools Survey

Thank you for participating in our first ever nationwide survey which has provided valuable data on the effectiveness of the Enviroschools Programme.

- *Robust Data with a 73% response rate* - 688 schools responded
- *Community collaboration* - Enviroschools fosters significant community collaboration, creating leadership pathways for students and real connections to families, outside agencies and communities.
- *Zero Waste* – Almost all Enviroschools (100%) are taking a range of actions to reduce waste*.
- *Food production* – Most Enviroschools (97%) are growing and harvesting produce from their gardens/trees for cooking, selling and gifting.
- *Biodiversity projects are well developed, with clear links to community* – 96% of respondents had biodiversity projects with 86,859 trees planted in 2014 (86% of which were native trees).
- *Successful water projects* – Three quarters of Enviroschools (75%) are undertaking a range of actions for water quality and conservation, including 19,264 meters of riparian planting in 2014.
- *Tackling energy usage* – Just over two-thirds of Enviroschools (69%) are involved in energy projects, including actions for sustainable transport (47%) and energy conservation actions (34%).
- *Enviroschools is contributing to a range of other outcomes* including citizenship, health, cultural understanding, motivated learners and community participation.
- *Depth of practice is related to the extent of outcomes* - Results showed that the depth of practice increases with the length of time a school or ECE centre is involved with Enviroschools. There is a clear link between depth of practice and the extent to which the programme is contributing to outcomes. This reinforces the value of the long-term approach of the Enviroschools Programme.

* Due to rounding - of 688 schools surveyed, 686 are taking actions to reduce waste.

A big thank you to
our partners on the
West Coast

