

# 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

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## Kia ora koutou

Take a well deserved break and read about the fantastic progress our West Coast Enviroschools have made. Make sure you look at the 2015 calendar for upcoming sustainability dates and events coming to your district.

Nga mihi nui, Zoe

## Fish on Drains Campaign

Kanieri School's Envirogroup, and former student Emily Baillie took an afternoon out to install blue plastic fish around drains in Kanieri as a reminder that all drains lead to the sea. Around 100 fish were very generously donated by Eco Blue Fish and the Envirogroup have plans to extend the initiative throughout Hokitika. Department of Conservation staff and Westland District Councillor Anthea Keenan lent a hand to hold the fish while the kids got busy drilling and hammering. Check out Eco Blue Fish's website at <http://ecobluefish.com>



Above: Charlotte Sweeney & Lyndon Slater (DOC) installing a plastic fish in Kanieri

## New Enviroschools

A big welcome to our two new Buller Enviroschools, St Canice's School, and Westport North School. As a result of the funding Buller District Council have invested in the Enviroschools Programme, these schools that have been on the waiting list since 2013 could be signed. It is a significant milestone and we look forward to working with you in 2015.

## Enviroschools Census

For the first time ever, the Enviroschools Foundation are carrying out a nationwide census of the actions and outcomes that are happening across the Enviroschools network. Thank you to all West Coast Enviroschools for completing the survey before the deadline - a 100% response rate. Wow-wee!



Above: Reefton Area Students conducting a waste audit

## Waste Audits

During Term 3, Reefton Area School, Runanga School & Granity School all completed their first waste audit. Keen students were supported by the Enviroschools facilitator to sort through one day's waste to get a detailed snapshot of the school's waste disposal practices. Student's were very surprised by how much divertible waste they were sending to landfill.

"We were astonished by how much waste we were sending to the landfill." - Teacher

"This is just so gross. It makes me sick how much rubbish we have" - Shoni. Age 10

## Taking Action to Reduce Waste

Following the waste audit, school's decided on some simple actions to minimise their waste.

The cleaner at **Runanga School** reported that since the Runanga Recycler's have been in action, the school's waste has dropped from 12 black bags to only 4!

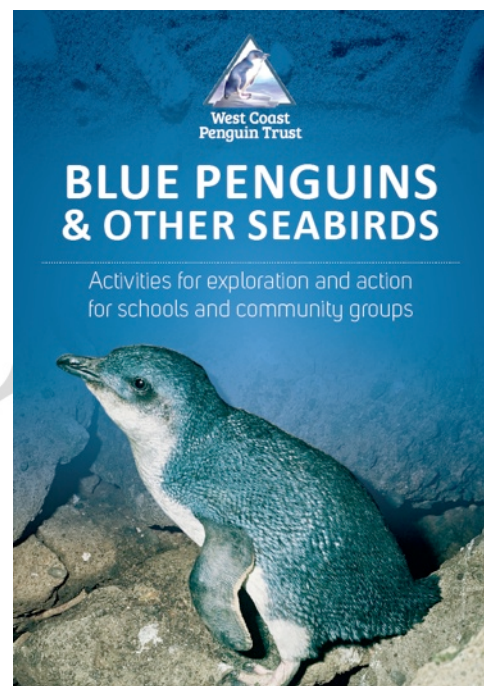
**Kidsfirst Karoro** have smartened up their recycling practices and as a result, have reduced their two wheelie bins of rubbish to one. They have invested in another recycling bin which is cheaper than what they were paying for their extra wheelie bin to be collected.

**Reefton Area School** are following suit, and looking at acquiring extra recycling bins.

"It was actually that simple. Overnight we had halved our waste" - Teacher

# Enviroschools Calendar 2015

Term	Month	Date	Event/Venue
	Hui-tanguru	Hokitika: 26 Jan – 1 Feb	<b>Driftwood &amp; Sand</b>
	Feb	Term 1 ongoing	<b>Virtual Great Walker Campaign</b> DOC & Alr New Zealand have created this competition and your group or class could win an ultimate Great Walks experience! Check out the details at: <a href="http://www.doc.govt.nz/virtualgreatwalker">http://www.doc.govt.nz/virtualgreatwalker</a>
		2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>World Wetland's Day</b> DOC West Coast are planning some adventurous excursions - keep up to date with their plans by following their Facebook page.
	Poutū-te-rangi	Ongoing	<b>Whio Awareness Month</b>
	March	28 Feb – 2 March	<b>Seaweeek: "Look beneath the surface - Papatai ō roto - Papatai ō raro" 'Nationwide</b> Go to <a href="http://seaweeek.org.nz">http://seaweeek.org.nz</a> for how to involve your school or community group.
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Children's Day</b>
		22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>World Water Day</b>
School holidays: 2 <sup>nd</sup> April – 20 <sup>th</sup> April			
2	Paenga-whāwhā	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Walk to Work Day</b>
	April	22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Earth Day &amp; Week</b>
		25 <sup>th</sup> April – 9 <sup>nd</sup> of May	<b>TBC: Cloth Nappy Fortnight</b> <b>Buller:</b> Workshop with the Nappy Lady <b>Grey:</b> Coffee group with the Nappy Lady at Kidsfirst Karoro <a href="http://www.thenappylady.co.nz">http://www.thenappylady.co.nz</a>
		Haratua	5 <sup>th</sup>
	May	22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>International Biodiversity Day</b>
		18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Envirogroup Action Day!</b> <a href="#">Westport</a> A day out for the Envirogroup and lead teacher at your school. Children will rotate around mini-workshops focused on waste and biodiversity. They will leave the workshop with a kete of knowledge and experiential activities to use back at school and in the community.
		19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Buller Cluster Meeting</b> <a href="#">4:30pm</a> For Enviroschools lead teachers and key staff. Please diarise the date –venue TBC
		27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Grey / Westland Cluster Meeting</b> <a href="#">DP1 Café Greymouth 4pm</a> For Enviroschools & centre lead teachers and key staff. Please diarise the date – topic TBC
	Pipiri	5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Arbor Day</b>
	June	8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>World Oceans Day</b> Theme – Healthy Ocean, Healthy Planet
			<b>TBC: Outlook for Someday Film Challenge Workshops</b> Young people + film + sustainability Workshops are for students and teachers see <a href="http://www.theoutlookforsomeday.net">http://www.theoutlookforsomeday.net</a> for more info
		18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Matariki</b>



## New Resource

The West Coast Penguin Trust Education Resource is hot off the press! A copy has been sent to all West Coast schools so track it down and consider putting it in the planning for 2015. It uses the Enviroschools Action Learning Cycle & develops action competence. Find out more at: <http://www.bluepenguin.org.nz>

## School Snapshot



Above: A glimpse at Kidsfirst Karoro Enviroschool's Scrapbook!