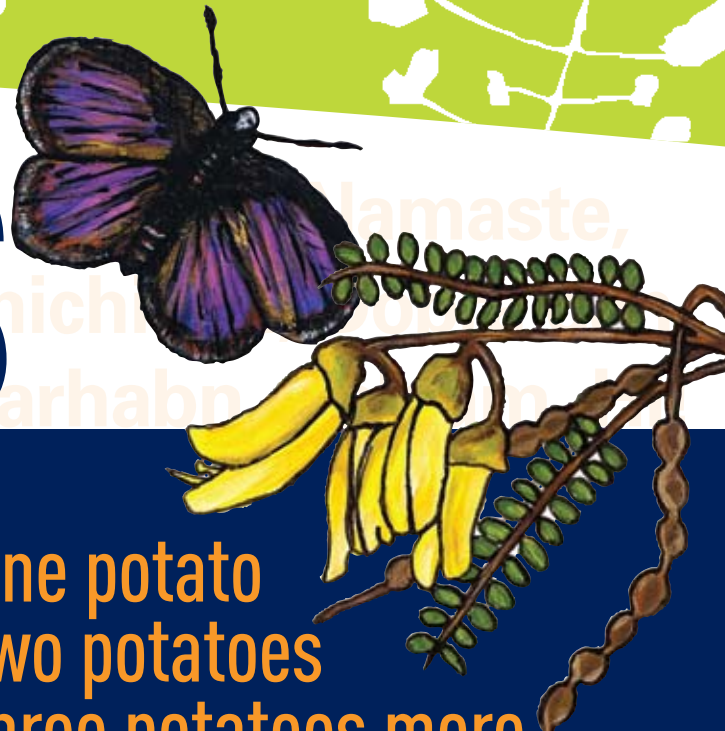


News



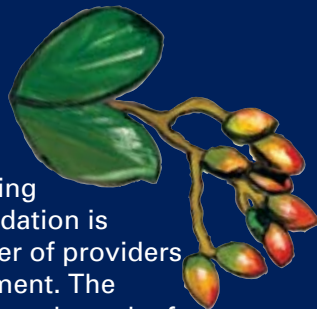
Welcome to the final edition of the newsletter under the current council structure. As from 1 November we will be one council. Work is progressing well to transition our programmes and services to schools to the new structure and you will hear more about this in the coming months.

In this issue we hear about the successful workshops and bus tour showcasing the work of a wide variety of schools, particularly those in south and central Auckland. We also learn about how Drury School learned to plant Maori potatoes by the moon and how Bayswater School have gone to print with a series of story books about encouraging native animals back into their local environment.

Editor – Hilary Chidlow

Funding

In seeking to diversify their funding sources The Enviroschools Foundation is having discussions with a number of providers including corporate and government. The national team are feeling confident about the future.



Farewell Shirley and Monique

In June we farewelled Shirley Dephoff who facilitated and coordinated the Enviroschools operations for the Auckland region for six years. Shirley returns to her passion and has taken up a senior teaching position at Dominion Road School.



Monique who facilitated North Shore Schools has taken up an exciting challenge as manager of Discovery and Learning at Auckland Zoo.



Thank you both for all that you have given to Enviroschools in the Auckland region.

One potato two potatoes three potatoes more

Theo and friends planted potatoes in a tractor tyre at Kindy.

They looked after the potatoes.

They watered the potatoes and gave them worm wee.

They watched the potatoes flower.

They waited patiently until they were ready to harvest

They made potato chips for everyone to eat.

They were delicious.

What do we need to do to get more?

We didn't get many and they were small.

Perhaps they need more sun.

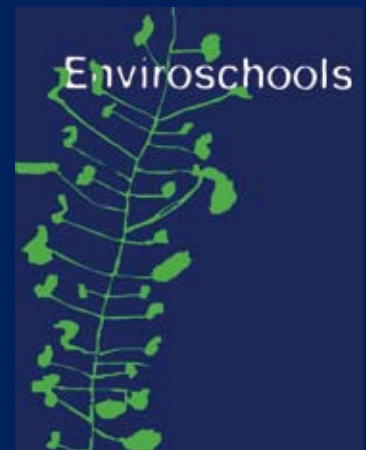
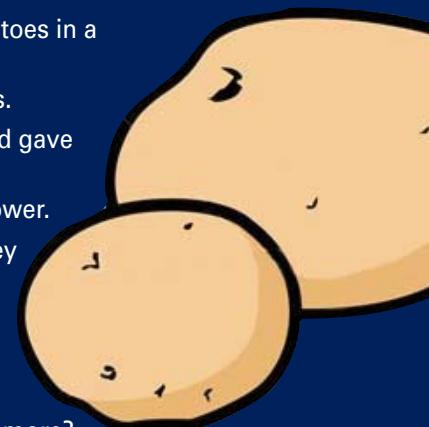
Theo looked at where the sun was when he arrived at Kindy.

He tracked the sun during the morning.

He looked at where the sun shone in the kindergarten.

At the end of the morning he went up to his teacher.

"The potatoes should be growing here because this is the sunniest spot," he said.



Enviroschools workshops / events 2010



Date	Workshop/ Event	Participants	Venue/s	For more information contact
Thursday 2 September 3.45-5.30pm	Secondary Cluster Term 3	Secondary Schools. Bridget Glasgow to facilitate Primary / Intermediate teachers	ARC Committee Room 3	Bridget Glasgow bglas@paradise.net.nz
Wednesday 8 September 3.30-5pm	Western Cluster Meeting for Secondary Schools	St Dominics students presenting projects. Marty Taylor to work with teachers on curriculum	St. Dominics	Jo Newman jo@ecomatters.govt.nz
Thursday 4 November 3.30-5pm	Western Cluster Meeting 'Project Gro'	Chris McLean to facilitate	Green Bay Primary	Chris McLean chris@ecomatters.org.nz
Thursday 18 November 3.45-5.30pm	Secondary Cluster Term 4	Bridget Glasgow to facilitate	Venue tbc	Bridget Glasgow bglas@paradise.net.nz
Friday 10 December Time tbc	Enviroschools Awards Celebration	Schools achieving Bronze, Silver and Green-Gold awards	Owairaka School	Sandy Bell-Jameson sandy.bell@arc.govt.nz

Term 3 & 4 events



Conservation Week 12-19 September Love New Zealand Arohaina i a Aotearoa

During this week DOC give you lots of chances to support and protect things that make New Zealand unique.



Clean Up New Zealand Week 17- 24 September

If you are organising an event at your school, how about teaming it up with an inquiry into waste as a resource and a waste audit in your school. www.knzb.org.nz



Outlook for Someday deadline 17 September

Under 24 Sustainability Challenge. www.theoutlookforsomeday.net



World Car free Day Wednesday 22 September

This annual event is a day for celebrating and exploring less carbon free intensive transport options. Organisers suggest World Carfree Day should not be a once a year thing, but the beginning of a healthier more sustainable more active life for us all!



350 Schools Action Day 23 September

Climate Day Action www.350.org/nz/schools International Coastal Cleanup Day Saturday 25 September.



World Habitat Day 5th October

The United Nations has designated this as World Habitat Day. The idea is to reflect on the state of our towns and cities. www.unhabitat.org/whd/



International Buy Nothing Day Saturday 27 November

Buy Nothing Day is a simple idea which challenges consumer culture by asking us to switch off from shopping for a day.

Bayswater School budding authors go public

The students of Bayswater School enjoy a vital environmental heritage due largely to the legacy left by two of its illustrious past pupils, Sir Peter Blake and Stephen Tindall.

During the last five years that legacy has been transformed into a living and sustainable project called The Ridge. The children of the school decided that a part of the playground should be developed into an outdoor classroom which would include a walkway, native plantings, homes and feeders for birds and animals, and works of art. The walkway would encourage more sustainable forms of transport such as walking and cycling, the plantings, animal shelters and feeders would encourage native animals back to the school environs and the art works would reflect the Maori creation story. As the physical work got underway the next project focussed on developing their skills as writers, editors and illustrators with each class creating a story about a native animal they hoped would return to make its home on The Ridge at Bayswater School. This was followed by the shared writing and recording onto CD of a school song about the Ridge. Both the CD and the sets of six books forming the Haere Mai... series have gone on sale to their adoring public: their friends, mums and dads and family members! We even had to print a re-run!

\$10 per book or \$50 for set of 6.

Contact Fiona at Bayswater School on admin@bayswater.school.nz or Ph. 445 6226



Making connections and making it real

Twenty five teachers and facilitators gathered at De la Salle College on a wet, wild and windy day in June to explore ways to enhance students learning in reading and writing, through the integration of authentic learning for sustainability themes.

The group was privileged to have three inspiring and innovative teachers share their effective practice; Margaret Warbuton (Kitchen Chemistry and Cooking and Growing Potatoes), Amanda Chapman (Reptile Research, Volcanoes and 'Under the Mountain') and Glenis Hanline (Waste).

The group was also fortunate to have Helen Schwarcz (Faculty of Education, UoA) talk about the rights of readers and read from a range of captivating books that explore many facets of sustainability.

Feedback from teachers is an indication of the richness and benefits of a group of like-minded people gathering to share. Comments included:

- What was useful... The sharing of ideas from teachers who have had a successful and obviously enjoyable teaching experiences under the umbrella of Enviroschools.
- Great to meet others who are so passionate about Enviroschools
- It was just so motivating and inspirational having time out of the classroom to see what other people are doing (around the authentic themes)
- Being exposed to such great lists of books that reflect messages of sustainability
- ...showed a great unit on how to improve waste issues around the school
- Enjoyed the presentation on reptiles. I can see myself using it in class
- Ideas on integrating sustainability throughout the curriculum was useful.

Cate Jessep and Sandy Bell-Jameson

Carving the Future www.carvingthefuture.com

A must see for all schools

A powerful documentary about young New Zealanders leading inspirational projects in their communities. Suitable for all age groups and guaranteed to inspire!

Runner-up Best New Zealand Film award and nominated as one of three finalists in the world for the BBC's Best Newcomer Award to be announced 10th October.... exciting!

Now available on DVD at \$20 per copy

How to order

Contact: Billy Matheson, The Enviroschools Foundation
billie.matheson@enviroschools.org.nz



Garden to tummy bus tour



Our EnviroSchools Garden to Tummy Bus tour took place on a sunny warm Friday back in April. Ninety people took the opportunity to come aboard the big bendy bus. We visited four south Auckland Schools showcasing different journeys related to organic gardening, seed sowing, plant care, harvesting, preparing and sharing food.

At East Tamaki School we were welcomed with karakia and Pacifica song before touring their organic garden. Students showed us around their orchard, herb garden and vegetable patch. They explained their systems for saving seeds, sowing seeds in their polystyrene containers, composting and saving rain water. We ended back in the 'Garden to Table' kitchen where students share food they have grown and cooked.

At Drury School students shared their process for their Maori potato project and planting by the moon, organic vegetable garden and wormery.

Redhill School students provided a delicious lunch of toasted sandwiches and salad burritos for everyone on their specially designed cooking trolleys. Here, Heidi Mardon, Director of the EnviroSchools Foundation and Andrew Smith, Chief Executive of Prolife Foods launched the Mother Earth Regional Events Fund, marking the start of an exciting partnership between the two organisations. The Regional Events fund will help regions to run professional development and networking events that enable schools to get together to share best practice and their sustainability journeys.

Edmund Hillary School showed us their inspired Mahinga Kai project, including a tropical garden, orchards, community gardens and a swimming pool converted to a nursery.

Comments from teachers:

"Fantastic schools and gorgeous children. I loved seeing non fussy non perfect gardens."

"Absolutely fabulous experience, and highly inspiring for both the school and the home gardener alike. The sense of pride, harmony, nurturing and satisfaction that the growing initiatives engender was clearly obvious in our wonderful student hosts."

It is awesome to see just how empowered, proud and knowledgeable the students were, apart from going home buzzing I have learned an enormous amount"

And from students:

"Superb. I loved the bus tour, it made me want to plant more at my school."

"Edmund Hillary turned their pool into a garden area. I liked the way that they had heaps of vegetables. They were happy they had a good garden."

"I think the bus tour was amazing because I learned that everybody has a different opinion of the care of things like gardens"



Free weed matting for EnviroSchools



Auckland carpet maker Cavalier Bremworth produces a very effective weed-matting made out of uplifted wool carpet - these are available to schools at no charge. There are two sizes of weedmats - 1m square or 600m square and these are pre-cut with a slit in one side and a hole in the middle, easy for laying around the base of plants. AgResearch trials have shown wool carpet to be an excellent weed mat, promoting plant growth, retaining soil moisture and soil biodiversity.

Weedmatting is available for EnviroSchools in the Auckland area and the only condition is that pick-up is arranged by the school.

Requests can be made to Sarah Melville on 09 277 6000 or by emailing smelville@cavbrem.co.nz with details of how much is required and when.



Maori perspectives workshop



Owairaka School proved to be an excellent venue for our Maori perspectives workshop.

Participants were warmly welcomed by the kapa haka group and later in the day had a chance to explore what Maori perspectives could look like in a school environment. Teachers were shown some ways that tikanga, a Maori world view, could be readily integrated into the curriculum and a student from Owairaka shared the interesting way they developed and recorded their school pepeha.

Teacher Carina Karaka explained the story of Wairaka shown in murals on a classroom and took us through Nga Ringa Awhina, the whare where she teaches Te Reo and Tikanga Maori. We gathered around their rongoa garden with Teremoana Jones from EcoMatters Environment Trust to share our thoughts about connections to the whenua and gain from Teremoana's vast knowledge about Maori medicinal plants and Kaitiakitanga.

The many participants came away loaded with ideas and resources and feeling inspired to further explore tikanga in their own schools.

"It opened my eyes and mind to ideas we could cover or use in my class/school. I now discovered the importance of relating Maori perspectives to not only Enviroschools but to my life and lives of the students I teach"

"Articulate, knowledgeable, nice range of experience and expertise (synergy), empathetic facilitators"

"Seeing purpose in action – practical ideas"

"Excellent food, beautiful venue"

"Excellent, answered all my questions and was an enlightening course"

Chris McLean



Planting maori potatoes (urenika) by the moon

Isabel, Caelyn, Trinity, Caitlin, Jessica, Brendon, Arnika Georgia – on behalf of all the Envirostudents at Drury School



They grew their own food as there was no shop to go to buy their fruit and vegetables like we do now. In the Maori village they had to find different ways of growing their food such as moon planting. That inspired us to have a go at moon planting too. We learned that the environment dictated what and how they grew food. Why they had to be aware of the environment such as cycles of the moon.

We talked about the moon cycles and got onto the topic of Maori potatoes. We learned aspects of planting such as suitable weather, soil, correct planting materials and seasons.

We had some amazing parents who knew about alternative ways of planting like planting by the moon. We wondered if planting Maori potatoes by the moon was better than how we normally planted; we started researching moon planting and learned that it is similar to the way the tides in the ocean work. It was really interesting learning about moon planting and now we have the knowledge to actually do our project and plant our Maori potatoes using our Maramataka (Maori moon calendar).

Our process was as follows. We decided to use some stackers. Some stackers were kindly donated through one of our parent helpers. We gave them a base coat of paint and a top coat. We decorated them. We chose a koru - meant new life growth and beginnings and a heart design meaning love, sharing of knowledge and skill and kindness. We are all one big family. We chose colours deliberately - brown for soil rich in nutrients - red for love and warmth - green for healthy growing and silver to signify New Zealand. We painted the stackers with Maori designs.

We planted after choosing a date that was considered by the Maori calendar to be favourable for planting.

We are waiting to see if our potatoes will produce large and healthy crops. Then we will share them with our friends at the school social.

Drury is a farming district so we have the room to plant our own food and have the option not to go to the food store. We are helping the environment by not having to use energy to drive there and saving money at the same time.

We have learned that people hundreds of years ago had to grow food and be self sufficient and sustainable. They also had to consider the weather when planting and storing and looking after the food when no food could grow in the winter.

We decided to plant and learn more about our environment because this is the future, and we are the ones who are choosing what happens to it. We researched and did a lot of talking as a group thinking about how it will help the environment, people and animals.

Enviroschools contacts 2010

Enviroschools Facilitators provide **professional development** and **inschool support** to assist your school in creating a sustainable school and community.

Facilitators are able to assist your school with:

Auditing and measuring change in sustainable practices and technologies

Developing whole school approach - working with key staff, senior management, BOT, teachers, students, grounds managers, parent community

Documenting and sharing of your school's journey

Establishing and maintaining **Envirogroups**

Making links to other programmes and resources

Mentoring key staff

Planning, implementing and evaluating action

Supporting students **taking action**

Vision mapping process (including Care Code) setting goals

Planning and resourcing **Enviroschools**

Themes and Actions: Me in My Environment; Living landscapes; Water of Life; Energy; Ecological Building; Zero Waste Integration of education for sustainability into the curriculum

Reflecting on progress (includes awards reflection process and annual reflection session/s)

Developing understanding of **Enviroschools kaupapa, guiding principles, key areas and processes**

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