



Nau Mai Welcome

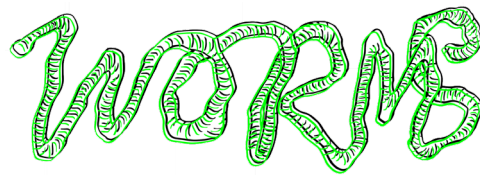
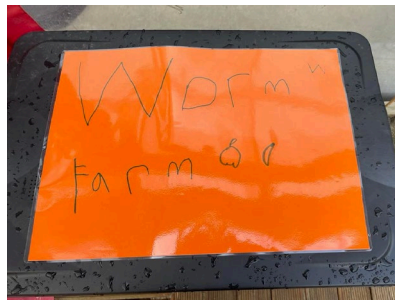
As we come to the end of another term it is time to reflect on the mahi and changes that has been made. Whether they were big or small, the beginning of a journey or the continuing work of a project, every small step is a step in the right direction.

Kotahi karihi nāna ko te wao tapu nui a Tāne. The creation of the forests of Tāne comes from one kernel. *Te Wharehuia Milroy.*

Starting small leads to growth.

This whakatauaikī comes from Dr Hinemoa Elder's book, *Aroha*, pg.97.. She reflects upon the importance of keeping on going, planting "seeds", being patient, and watching them grow. As a collective all these small "seeds" can lead to big change (a forest).

I have included it here as this terms GREENchat we celebrate the beginning of new journeys or the planting of seeds. At Springlands Kindergarten and Redwoodtown Kindergarten they set up their new worm farms. Picton School explore the Enviroschools 4 P's and we welcome seven new centres to Enviroschools through our ECE Enviroschools Pilot Programme.



Did you know that worms have five hearts! And that New Zealand has nearly 200 native earthworm species. Or that worms have no teeth but rather a pad of flesh above their mouth that stretches out and scoops food in, this is why they need food to be soft and moist.

Redwoodtown Kindergarten and Springlands Kindergarten have embarked on a journey to turn their food scraps into nutritious plant food. Last term they both received an Enviroschools Action fund to purchase new form farms. The tamariki have been empowered to take the lead on this, starting with the construction of the farms, followed by signage and an understanding of what to feed the worms. The tamariki are excited to learn about the process that is undertaken by the worms and also feed their plants.



Picton School explore the four P's of a whole school approach

Part of Enviroschools kaupapa is including the whole school in your journey, not just the students and staff, but seeing the learning opportunities, the knowledge, and experience gained from other aspects of school life.

These 'other aspects' are sometimes called the hidden curriculum. It is what the school grounds feel like, how decisions are made, and what people do.

This term the staff at Picton School invited Angela to their staff meeting to lead some professional development into the four key areas. Enviroschools uses these to strengthen learning experiences using all parts of school life.

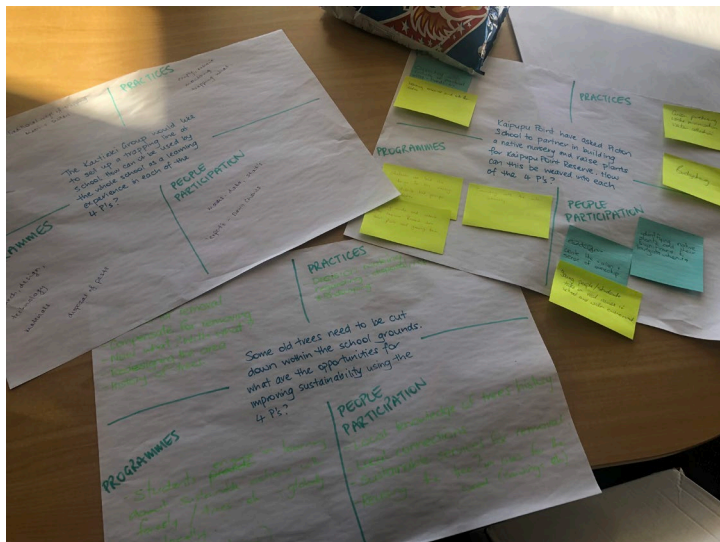
Called the Four P's the staff were relieved to hear it wasn't a new personality test or assessment matrix they were learning about!

There was chocolate up for grabs if anyone could name what they might be.

- Place - Wahi
- Practices - Tikanga
- People and Participation - Tangata
- Programmes – Kaupapa ako

After identifying and exploring the four P's further, and enticed with more P words - pretzels, poppa jacks and popcorn - they were given 3 scenarios' to work on.

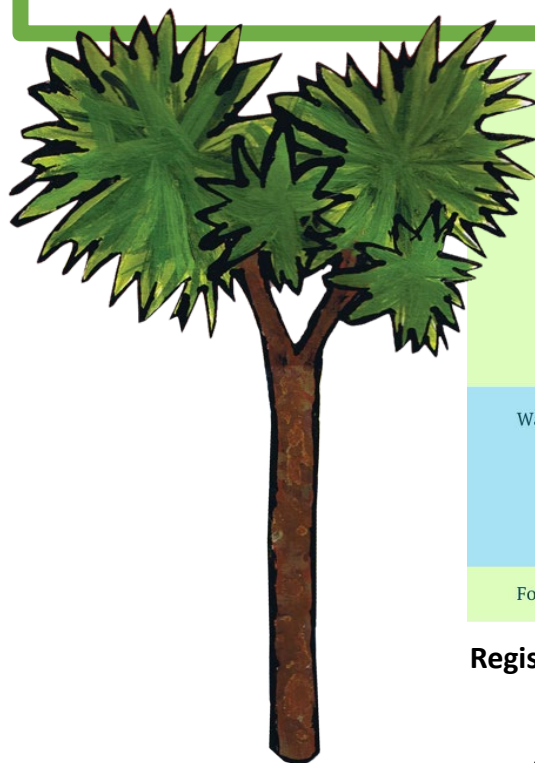
1. The children would like to set up a trapping line at school. How can it be used as a learning experience in each of the four P's?
2. Kaipupu Point have asked Picton School to partner in building a native nursery to raise plants for Kaipupu Point. How can this be weaved into each of the four P's?
3. Some old trees need to be cut down on the school grounds. What are the opportunities for improving sustainability using the four P's?



It became clear that in using the four P's the entire school became a resource for learning and showed how their school valued the environment and sustainability.

Finishing the session, the team thought about how else the four P's could be used and how they could change the four P's into language that made sense for students so they could take part in decision making too.

One of the great things about Enviroschools is the flexibility of it to fit your journey. How your school uses the four P's will be different from another and will reflect the uniqueness of your school.



NZAAE Conference

HĀ + HAUORA + TANGATA

Reconnecting with each other, nature and place

Wairau | Marlborough Local connection event 11th October
Koru Nature Reserve, 9:30 - 12:30
Touring the Koru Nature reserve, morning tea then a trip to the Marlborough Falcon Trust aviary.
We'll be sharing the updated Marlborough Conservation Education Toolbox

Followed by National online day 12th October



Registrations for the National Online Day, 12 October close on the 7 October 2022

See here for more details and registration

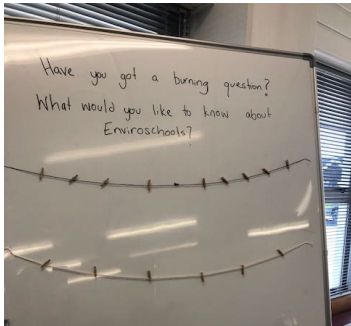
<https://www.nzaee.org.nz/events/nzaee-conference-october-2022>

ECE Enviroschools Pilot Programme

This term Ramona and Annie introduced Enviroschools to ECE's centres that have agreed to be part of a local pilot programme. This was initially started in 2021 but due to the Covid situation was restarted now that things are more settled.

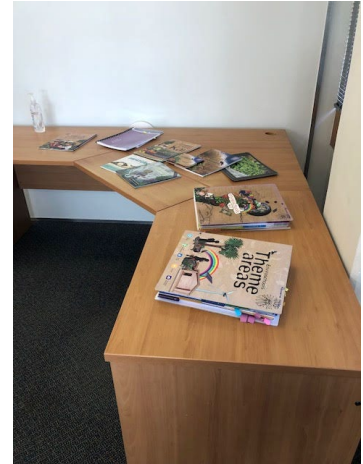
Kaiako from across seven Marlborough centres were immersed into the Enviroschools Kaupapa for the afternoon starting with a visit at Seymour Kindergarten. From the beautiful gardens, to the butterfly house, to the composting system and all the amazing mahi displayed inside the classroom these Kaiako left feeling inspired.

We then moved indoors to start unpacking the Guiding Principles, A whole centre approach – 4 P's and the Action Learning Cycle. With so much to take it in, a couple of fun activities were a welcomed break. Starting with "A World in a Lunchbox" which involved exploring where in the world items come from and discussions of how much energy it would have taken to get the items here. Then finishing the day up with "Melting Icebergs" and thinking about what changes we can make.



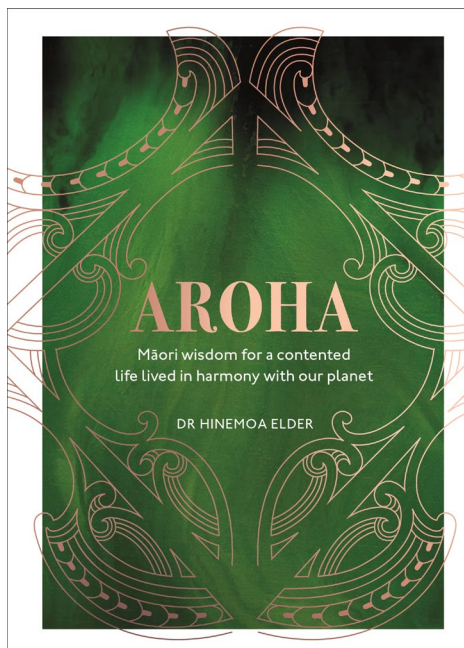
We welcome Awatere Early Learning Centre, Montessori, Little Footsteps Taylor Pass Road, Little Footsteps John Street, Picton Community Early Learning Centre, BECC Uptown and BECC John Street to the Enviroschools whānau.

A big thank you to Seymour Kindergarten for welcoming us into their space and showing us what Enviroschools can look like when embedded in practice.



Keep up to date with events and awareness days/ weeks on our Marlborough Enviroschools website. We now have a new calendar

<https://www.enviroschoolsmarlborough.co.nz/events>



Aroha – Māori wisdom for a contented life lived in harmony with our planet
Dr Hinemoa Elder

"Aroha is an ancient Māori word and way of thinking that means love, compassion, respect and empathy. Discover how we can all find greater contentment and kindness for ourselves, each other and our world with more aroha in our lives."



Coming up in Term 4... Kids Edible Gardens Teacher Workshop

(For schools in the KEGs programme)

**Thursday 3 November, 1 - 3 pm
Blenheim School Hall**

Join Angela and Annie to explore what a Sustainable Community is and how Kids Edible Gardens can be used to build and support a Sustainable Community within your school and outside of your school gates.

We will take a look at the resources within the Kids Edible Gardens Teacher Padlet and have fun taking part in a few of the classroom lesson plans.

All teachers with classes participating in Kids Edible Gardens are welcome to join us whether they have worked with the KEG's programme for a number of years or are new to it this year (or perhaps next year if planning is that far ahead).

We know Term 4 gets hectic so we have scheduled it early in the term before the craziness begins.

Join us a little earlier from 12.30pm for a bite to eat if you have time. Teacher release time is available for up to 20 teachers so please register with Angela on venties@slingshot.co.nz by Friday 28 October.



Our team

There are three of us working in the MDC education team to support you and your students, as well as Ramona Millen, who facilitates the Enviroschools programme in kindergartens. We also have some talented people in our organisation and community that we can link you with, and good connections with the team at DOC.



Annie McDonald | Education Officer & Enviroschools Regional Coordinator

Annie is an educator, has taught at primary and secondary schools, and is passionate about showing schools how they can integrate education for sustainability into the curriculum. She gets a thrill from working with students to grow environmental leaders.



Angela Wentworth | Environmental Educator

Angela is a horticulturalist, and regularly has her hands in the soil with students. She also trains our Kids' Edible Gardens facilitators and supports schools with inquiry learning into things green.



Ramona Millen | Early Childhood teacher and Facilitator

Ramona has strong links with the natural environment having growing up in the Marlborough Sounds, and strives to include this love and passion through her educational role with young tamariki. Ramona strives to empower those around her with the knowledge of how to look after themselves and Papatūānuku.