

EcoBuzz

EcoBuzz Edition 59

Term 3 2015

IN THIS ISSUE: Nelson Enviroschools 10 year celebration; Matariki @ Tahunanui; lots of schools taking action; Friends of Sharks visit; a win for Nelson College for Girls and Tasman Early Childhood Centre get even wiser on waste.



Richmond Montessori Preschool children and staff showing off their new Enviroschools sign.

Kia ora tatou

Have you had a look at the Popes Encyclical Letter? I'm not Catholic and this 'letter' rocks! A few quotes from it to hopefully get your interest piqued.

"Never have we so hurt and mistreated our common home as we have in the last two hundred years."

"I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all."

"The current global situation engenders a feeling of instability and uncertainty, which in turn becomes "a seedbed for collective selfishness". When people become self-centred and self-enclosed, their greed increases. The emptier a person's heart is, the more he or she needs things to buy, own and consume. Yet all is not lost. Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start, despite their mental and social conditioning. We are able to take an honest look at ourselves, to acknowledge our deep dissatisfaction, and to embark on new paths to authentic freedom. No system can completely suppress our openness to what is good, true and beautiful, or our God-given ability to respond to his grace at work deep in our hearts. I appeal to everyone throughout the world not to forget this dignity which is ours. No one has the right to take it from us". - Pope Francis 2015

Awesome isn't it? How could you have your class study the letter? Links to it are on page 15.

Thanks Mary, Lindsay, Adie and Claire

" THE URGENT CHALLENGE TO PROTECT OUR COMMON HOME
INCLUDES A CONCERN TO BRING THE WHOLE HUMAN FAMILY TOGETHER
TO SEEK A SUSTAINABLE AND INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOR WE KNOW THAT THINGS CAN CHANGE."



POPE FRANCIS IN HIS CLIMATE ENCYCLICAL - JUNE 18TH, 2015



"The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago.

The second best time is now."

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So long, Farewell.....

This is just a quick message from me to let you know that I will be leaving Nelson City Council at the end of August (last working day is Thursday 20 August) as I'm going overseas for a few months. It's been a pleasure working with so many of you over the last year or so and very inspiring seeing all that you have achieved through your many and varied environmental activities. It's been great!

Council are busy recruiting for a new 'me' but it's unlikely that whoever takes over will be in post before the end of September. So, if you'd like to speak to someone at Nelson City Council about an environmental education issue after I've left, please contact Dean Evans, Manager Environmental Programmes on 03 546 0339 or via email at dean.evans@ncc.govt.nz.

If you are a Nelson Enviroschool, please contact Lindsey Fish, Enviroschools Regional Coordinator (021 446 0247 or enviroschools@ncc.govt.nz) in the first instance.

All the best for the future! Kia kaha

Mary Curnow



Nelson City Council launches a new 10 year environmental project!



On 1 July 2015, Nelson City Council introduced an exciting new project about caring for our environment called Nelson Nature – 'bringing the **wild** into our **life**'. This 10 year programme of work will build on the conservation and ecological work that the Council currently carries out on both public and private land. It will focus on a more targeted and extensive approach to caring for our natural environment, working alongside community groups, landowners and organisations.

Nelson Nature is a whole of Nelson approach to biodiversity and recognises that our natural heritage is entwined and linked across different ecosystems and landscapes. There will be 11 separate projects covering areas as diverse as the Dun Mountain, urban and rural waterways, inland hill country, biodiversity, coastal habitats, significant natural areas (SNAs) plus others.

For more information about the project visit www.nelson.govt.nz search phrase 'Nelson Nature'.

Watch this space for how you, your school or early childhood education centre could get involved over the coming months!

Community Planting Day

Sat 1 August - just below Maitai Camp - 10.30-2.30

As part of Project Maitai/Mahitahi you are invited to come along to a community planting day.

- Spades and plants provided
- BYO gumboots
- FREE sausages and hash browns

Come and plant a couple of trees – have a sausage and enjoy being part of ‘making a difference’.



A recent clean up of Saltwater Creek in Nelson by volunteers from the Rotary Club of Whakatu – ka pai team!

Update on Project Maitai/Mahitahi

Some new projects have been added to the Project Maitai/Mahitahi programme with the start of the new financial year. There's a focus on York Stream and Saltwater Creek this year to improve the water quality in those streams, reduce the amount of litter and rubbish in the streams, and make the streams more welcoming for fish and other freshwater critters.

We'd love to hear from anyone who is keen to do regular litter pick-ups, some weed removal or streamside plantings along these waterways.

Our work continues on improving fish passage, understanding toxic algae, and making the Collingwood St swimming hole safe for swimming.

For more information about Project Maitai/Mahitahi go to our website at www.nelson.govt.nz/project-maitai, or check out the Friends of the Maitai at www.friendsofthemaitai.org.nz

Nelson's environment scores are in:

Nelson City Council's environmental monitoring scorecards for 2014/15 have just been released. These annual monitoring summaries provide key up-to-date monitoring results for water, air and bathing water quality in the Nelson region. Results show varying levels of progress, with some good improvements in the water quality of the Maitai River and progress with Nelson's air quality.

For the scorecards' full results, visit the Environmental Monitoring section of Council's website: www.nelson.govt.nz



Sustainability the focus for Youth Leadership Award

Did you know that consideration of sustainability is now included in judging of all Science and Technology Fair entries?

This will be the third year that Tasman District and Nelson City Councils are offering recognition to students that have taken action and have led others to be more proactive in caring for the environment.

Prize: \$200

Criteria: Best project identifying an environmental challenge that demonstrates leadership and action to benefit the environment and community. (Science and Technology)

Judging criteria Science:

- Scientific Thought and Understanding = *Suggested limitations/sustainable solutions*

Judging criteria Technology:

- Development and Understanding = *Environmental/sustainable consideration*

Judging criteria Science and Technology:

- Creativity = *Creative sustainability practices/actions*
- Interview = *Can discuss problems/sustainable solutions*

Entries in by 14 August.

Teachers you can help your students be prepared, or ask one of our team (see Page 2), to help your students gain an understanding of sustainability, its considerations and possible solutions. The Cawthron Science and Technology Fair deadline for entries is August 14th <http://cawthronsciencefair.org.nz/>

Cawthron Science and Technology Fair 21st-26th Sept, Stoke Memorial Hall.

Visit our webpage for details www.cawthronsciencefair.org.nz

Calendar

1 Aug	Matai Camp Community Planting Day – 10am – 2.30pm just below the camp
12 Aug	Sustainable Coastline FREE Presentation Delivery Workshop - 6:30pm @ the Nelson Environment Centre
13 Aug	Sustainable Coastline FREE Event Management Workshop - 6:30pm @ the Nelson Environment Centre
14 Aug	Entries close for Cawthron Science and Technology Fair www.cawthronsciencefair.org.nz
13-19 Sept	Keep NZ Beautiful Week www.knzb.org.nz
16 Sept	Enviroschool – getting ready for Reflection Workshop 1pm – 5.30pm at Salisbury School
21 – 26 Sept	Cawthron Science and Technology Fair www.cawthronsciencefair.org.nz
27 Sept	World Rivers Day http://worlddriversday.com/resources www.biodiversity.govt.nz/kids
20-26 Oct	Save Kiwi Week www.kiwiforkiwi.org
25 Oct	Upcycling competition - judging at Ngatimoti Fair
28 Oct	How to run a successful zero-waste school event 3.30pm – 4.45pm Nelson Environment Centre
1- 8 Nov	Conservation Week - Healthy Parks Healthy People www.doc.govt.nz
21 Nov	World Fisheries Day http://resources4rethinking.ca/en/theme/fisheries-day http://www.hiwithekiwi.co.nz/resources

FREE FILM-MAKING WORKSHOPS

Registrations are now open for the fifth annual series of The Outlook for Someday sustainability film-making workshops.

The free one-day workshops are taking place throughout New Zealand from June to August 2015.

They are open to students from years 7 to 13 (aged 11 to 18) as well as teachers and youth workers who want to engage with The Outlook for Someday as a vehicle for film-making.

All workshop participants will make short films and screen them at the end of the day.

Each student will also come away with a story idea in development – one that is meaningful to them and which they could develop into a film as an entry to The Outlook for Someday film challenge.

Each workshop runs from 9am to 4.30pm. Most of them take place on a weekday.

This year The Outlook for Someday is also pleased to present 5 two-day Kaupapa Māori film-making workshops, each of which will include an overnight stay on a marae. Spaces for all workshops are limited to 25 participants. Students, teachers and youth workers are invited to register for a workshop in their area.

www.theoutlookforsomeday.net/workshops



Upcycling Competition

Yes there is another Upcycling Competition this year! MOTEC teachers have some students already well on the way with their entries and are keen to have more technology teachers supporting students to enter this competition. The standard of the 50+ entries was pretty high last year such that some people at the Motueka Ecofest wanted to purchase the invented items. So this year, we decided that the entries need to be of a 'standard for purchase' and judging will be on behalf of a purchaser looking for the item's ability to be resilient for use.

The competition will be held at the Ngatimoti Fair on the 25 October (the Sunday of Labour Weekend) and the opportunity to sell your item will be made available. Details of entry will be available mid August.

For more information email Adie or Claire (contacts details on p2).





New Enviroschools sign for Richmond Montessori

Richmond Montessori Preschool was very happy to be the first Enviroschool in Tasman to receive the new generic sign for all Enviroschools. The new sign identifies an Enviroschool and their stage of the journey with the year date as well. Up until now, Enviroschools only received a sign once they reached Silver level, now all Enviroschools will receive a sign once they have committed to the Enviroschools sustainability journey. Richmond Montessori became a Silver Enviroschool at the end of 2014.

Poetry Slam Champ visits Nelson Enviroschools!

Nelson Enviroschools were privileged to receive a visit from National Poetry Slam Champion, Te Kahu Rolleston, at the end of Term One. Te Kahu, whose official job title is 'Poet,' works for Te Aho Tū Roa, part of the Toimata Foundation. Fresh from the Pacifica Festival, with an audience of 4000 people, we were extremely lucky to have him to work with our youth in Nelson, bringing his gifted brand of cool to inspire envirogroups. After a hero's welcome where students already knew of his work, he went on to show the power that words can have as a tool to convey a message and initiate behaviour change in a relevant and appealing way to our students. Te Kahu visited six schools,



as well as giving his only public performance at the Elma Turner Library. Students were fortunate to work with him to produce their own poetry related to environmental issues. This also illustrated how it is possible to integrate environmental education within other curriculum areas, such as English, in an over stretched programme. His poetry strikes a chord with everyone who hears it and he also instilled confidence in the students to make some awesome performances of their writing.

To see Te Kahu at: <http://channel.tepapa.govt.nz/video/poetry-slam-matariki-2014-te-kahu-rolleston-performs/> or search Te Kahu on U tube.



A poem by Victor Ruhen from Victory School:

Yeah, as that rain falls down
I am thinking about how...
How much of that counts as a drop of life.
Like the flowers growing,
Like da trees bursting out of the ground...

And then I think of the people who can't get to water
or rain
their pounding
their praying.

And the joy in their life,
when a drop of precious water hits their tongue.
Water Is Life.
Without water there would not be
Life.

With thank to the Toimata Foundation, Nelson Elma Turner library and Nelson City Council.





Getting Ready for Reflection

A workshop run by Jan Cox – Enviroschools National Manager and designer of the reflection process.

Whether you are planning to reflect, want some reflective tools for your kete or are simply curious about the process, you are welcome to join us.

When: Wednesday 16th September 1.30 – 5pm

Where: Salisbury School Richmond

Teacher release maybe available (check with your local facilitator)

Register by Friday 11th September with

Lindsey Fish – lindseyfish@xtra.co.nz or

Adie Leng – adie.leng@tasman.govt.nz

Open to Enviroschools teachers in Nelson and Tasman Enviroschools.

Nelson Enviroschools Celebrate 10 years.

An evening of celebration combined with story-telling of local purakau was how Nelson Enviroschools chose to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Enviroschools in the top of the south.

The evening, attended by 70 principals, lead-teachers and ECE teams, started with a powhiri. It was held at Auckland Point School, Nelson's newest Enviroschool and an appropriate setting for Joanie Wilson to share her family story. Cindy Batt also shared a story about pingau. Teachers were gifted a book, especially made for the event, telling a Ngāti Kuia story; "Kei hea ngā Tāmure? Where are all the snapper?" kindly shared and read by Kim Hippolite. The book was beautifully illustrated by Olivia Hall and published by local company, Potton and Burton. The focus on Maori perspectives, one of the five Enviroschool guiding principles, and the sharing of stories by local iwi was significant and an indication of how far Nelson Enviroschools has come in the last 10 years. We were also fortunate to be joined by Nelson Mayor Rachel Reese, Nelson MP Hon Dr Nick Smith, and Heidi Mardon who is Chief Executive of Toimata Foundation. Ms Reese unveiled the new Enviroschools national sign, also gifted to all Enviroschools/ECE in Nelson as part of the 10th anniversary and cut the cake with students from across each sector of Enviroschools.

The evening marked a milestone and we not only acknowledged the last 10 years and those who had come before us, but we looked forward to the next 10 years and our partnerships as we continue to move in strengthening of the Enviroschools programme in our region.

Lindsey Fish



Waste Audits at Tasman Enviroschools Early Years Centres

Many Early Years Enviroschools are awesome when it comes to minimising waste in their centres.

Adie Leng held some more waste audits as part of promoting the new recycling bin to parents in Tasman District and was in awe of the efforts that local Enviroschools make to reduce consumerism, reuse resources and recycle what is left. There is very little going to landfill per year for the number of adults and children in their care for 42 weeks a year. The highlight at Greenwood Kindergarten was having the audit process watched by all children through data projected tablet video – great for counting, measuring, recycling knowledge and fun! Here are some recent results from just three early childhood centres with 110 children enrolled per week plus ratio of adults in total, per annum

823 kg of food is diverted from landfill

2,842 kg resources are recycled – a lot of this was packaging at audit time

A big **‘Wow and well done’** to one centre’s results with only 25 kg of annual waste to landfill produced from a daily enrolment of 25, if we use the audited measurement of its one day of rubbish as an estimate for an annual amount. Note, that its zero waste philosophy does not require children to take home their own waste from lunches ☺. I am sure Papatuanuku loves this and something for us all to have as an aim.

Enviroschools



Photo of First Years well organised resource sorting centre

Harakeke Celebrating as a Silver Enviroschool – Congratulations☺

Gundula Ruebsam, the head teacher and owner, developed Harakeke Preschool as an environmentally friendly early childhood learning centre beside a patch of native bush and signed up as an Enviroschool at the end of 2011. A treasure trove of eager parents were all prepared to assist with Harakeke’s first holistic reflection process – first at Bronze and then at Silver. The self-review process was facilitated by Roger Wilde, Enviroschools teacher at Auckland Point Kindergarten, and Adie Leng. Everyone visited the forest base camp, and heard stories of its future planning; why there is a new native planting area to protect the mature native trees; how the vegetable gardens promote community; and the joys of the Matariki community lantern tree ritual. These activities were outside the fence of the children’s normal play-to-learn areas.

It was hard to contain the stories from parents and teachers about how much they have learnt about environmental care and sustaining community with their children at Harakeke. “Gundula has provided a rural community heart for us to feel part of.” “The scrapbooks are rich with activities that inspire.” “This place is unique and kids are exposed to Maori and North American Indian cultural perspectives as part of what just happens here.”

For more information see: <http://www.harakeke.org.nz/>



The reflection team at Harakeke: 8th May 2015

Nelson College for Girls - WINS BOTTLE BINS



Nelson College for Girls Envirogroup hold a planning meeting.

Congratulations to the Envirogroup at Nelson College for Girls. NCG is one of 12 secondary schools, across New Zealand, sharing a \$48,000, eco-friendly prize pool aimed at reducing waste. They will receive a set of purpose-built, stainless steel recycling bins designed to hold beverage containers.

The competition was created by Tauranga-based environmental education trust EERST.

“We needed to do something about the frightening number of aluminium cans and glass and plastic bottles that are tossed in school waste bins every year,” says EERST chairman Marty Hoffart.

“These bins will help the winning schools put a stop to that.”

Mr Hoffart said bin contest winners had to prove they were already showing initiative to reduce waste, that they genuinely needed the bins and were committed to using them. He said judges noted that the Nelson College For Girls’ entry was submitted by the head girl

and Envirogroup student leader, Raven Maeder, and included a detailed, well-structured implementation plan. “This application showed very obvious passion for environmental issues, backed up by good, solid, practical plans. We know the school will make the most of their new bins.”

The beverage containers will be paid for by the annual Keep New Zealand Beautiful Beverage Container Recycling Community Grants programme, funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation.

Support with writing the winning application was provided by the Nelson Envirogroup facilitator; one of a number of things your facilitator is happy to help with.

Spring Fair - Motueka Rudolf Steiner School.

20 September - 10am - 480 High Street, Motueka.

Plenty of new season veggie seedlings, great food, music, games, puppet show and silent auction.

Golden Bay High School puts Lake Killarney under the microscope

Golden Bay High School year 10 science students have been studying three local lakes to identify why one has changed and become a brown colour due to algal growth (likely due to Eutrophication – too many nutrients in the water). Blue Lake and Lake Waingaro are also lakes formed in dolines (a feature of limestone/marble country) and were studied as comparison lakes.

The students have learned about pH, conductivity, temperature, nitrate levels and water clarity and colour. Once the science is in and conclusions drawn GBHS students will be able follow up with recommending solutions and implement the needed changes – real science with real outcomes for their local community.



Friends for Sharks visit Ngatimoti School

'Friends for Sharks' presentation sounded interesting and a great follow-up to Experiencing Marine Reserves! So Debbie Godsiff, lead Enviroschools teacher at Ngatimoti School with her Envirogroup, invited local schools to make up a good sized audience for the Friends for Sharks marine conservation cause presentation. Lower Moutere and Brooklyn teachers and students took up the offer and were first showed around by Ngatimoti students to see some of the projects Ngatimoti students are passionate about and joined in with their stream monitoring before meeting Kathryn and Nicholas, the two experienced divers who just love sharks. These two English Great White Shark wildlife guides decided to give up their former careers and undertake a world tour to raise awareness of the plight of sharks and the need for marine conservation.

Everyone was wowed by the stories and photographs of sharks. Most had not heard of at all, let alone seen their magical features. A key message Kathryn and Nicholas emphasised was about the importance of analysing the information we are all exposed to by the media and coming to informed conclusions rather than blindly accepting what we're told. They also encouraged the children to follow their passions. Their own passion for sharks had everyone absorbing the values of sharks and the impact of various forms of media such as TV, films and the internet on both sharks and our own general beliefs.

Check out their Facebook page and some of the other schools they visited in the Top of the South:

<http://www.friendsforsharks.com/>



Congratulations to Birchwood Kindergarten

Since 2013 Birchwood Kindergarten has been an Enviroschool and has made a commitment to practice and teach sustainable living. Over the last two years:

- a rainwater tank to recycle rainwater has been installed,
- children maintain a vegetable and flower garden and compost food waste.
- the Kindergarten recycles and reuses paper and plastic containers.

To become a Bronze Early Years Enviroschool teachers, parents, children and Enviroschool facilitators were, invited to reflect together on the changes that have happened since becoming an Enviroschool. On Wednesday the 29 of April Lindsey Fish, Enviroschools Facilitator & Nelson Regional Coordinator came to Birchwood Kindergarten and awarded the Bronze level. The Kindergarten community celebrated with a shared lunch, a recycled hat theme and a shredded paper dance party

Silver Reflections for two Nelson Kindergartens

Congratulations to Nayland and Nelson South Kindergartens on their successful silver reflections. Keep up the good work! If you'd like to know more about the reflection process look out for the workshop coming in Term Three.

Matariki @ Tahunanui School

The seven stars called Matariki are very important in maori culture.

The Green Ninjas and the Kapa Haka group followed in the footsteps of the ancient maori and planted our school vege garden with nutritional seeds to give Mother Earth/Papatuanuku a rest. The seeds planted were lupins and instead of Papatuanuku working to produce crops for us to eat, lupins put nitrogen back into the soil getting it healthy and ready for spring. Matariki represents the maori new year and we all began planting the lupins after a karakia. We talked about what Matariki meant to us and made a list.

Matariki Means:

- Harvest,
- Giving thanks to Papatuanuku,
- Time to look to the stars, the future and remember those who have gone before us,
- Time to restore the essence to Papatuanuku,
- Celebration of whanau and all that we have,

Then the seeds were handed out to everyone and we got to work planting! At the end there was a Karakia thanking Papatuanuku and Tanemahuta. The Green Ninjas were shown great respect by the Kapa Haka group for our work helping Papatuanuku remain healthy.

By Lucy Summerfield and Georgia Dallimore. Tahunanui School Green Ninjas-Envirogroup.



CAS & GBHS go to Secondary Hui

Collingwood Area School teacher Wendy Drummond, teachers Deb Marsden and Ben Knoef from Golden Bay High School along with EnviroSchool Facilitator Claire Webster spent two days in Wellington at an EnviroSchools Secondary focused Hui during the last holiday break. It was a busy two days with lots to discuss and many folk to network with. The range of initiatives happening around the country was heart-warming. We came back with lots of ideas and are all eager for each school to continue on its own unique awa journey.



Stoke School and KEGs!



Term 2 had been very productive, the old vege beds were moved, filled and planted out. Our compost system and bins too found a new and improved location, and became very industrious. Rooms' 4 and 6 learned to drive the wheelbarrow and become familiar with spades and forks. Sarah Langi came to visit to talk about making a compost cake and this tied in beautifully with some inside lessons about the little animals that do all the work in a compost. Autumn leaves were also collected for the compost heap. Rake etiquette followed! Room 4 and 6 are thoroughly enjoying their garden work.

Saving Jenkins Stream

Tahunanui School's enviorgroup, The Green Ninjas, have begun their 2015 action project. In May we met with Mel McColgan who is the Waimaori Stream-Care educator. The Waimaori programme aims to raise community awareness of waterways. Our aim is to measure the water quality of Jenkins Stream and to restore it to a healthy condition.

It was a great afternoon learning all about how streams get polluted and how it is of growing concern in all areas of our region. Following this we have visited two stream sites and noticed a huge difference between our local Pascoe St site and further upstream at Enner Glynn Rd. This term we will take action to raise the community's awareness about stream health.

Heidi Newland-EnviroSchool Leadteacher-Tahunanui School.



WES Teachers' Workshop:

How to run a successful zero-waste school event

Wednesday 28 October 3.30 – 4.45pm

Nelson Environment Centre

With the school summer gala season approaching, have you considered making your next school event waste-free? Clifton Terrace school has been running their popular Tea by the Sea fundraiser as a zero-waste event for four years now. Tahunanui School has also succeeded in running two such events.

The benefits are clear:

- less cost
- less waste to landfill and less to clean up!
- informed and empowered students
- good environmental message going out to the wider school community

Waste Education Services (WES) invite you to a workshop on how to run a zero-waste school event.

The workshop will include:

- tips and ideas for successful planning
- ideas for involving your students and their families
- curriculum resources and activities
- materials and equipment needed

Suitable for teachers and those responsible for planning school-wide events, e.g. PTA members, Board of Trustee members, etc. For more information and registration contact Sarah (below): bookings essential close Wednesday 21 October.

Happbee Wraps

Two Nelson kindergarten teachers have come up with an alternative to using cling film, reducing the consumption of single use plastic.

Linda Hansen and Jo Brown started selling Happbee Wraps last year, which are made from brightly coloured 100 per cent cotton coated with beeswax.

"We certainly see how much cling film gets thrown out, it isn't biodegradable and we did see this as a really good alternative," said Hansen.

Teaching children about caring for the environment combined with a passion for making things led the pair to develop the wraps. Since they launched Happbee in September, they have given the wraps to colleagues for testing, started selling online, become regulars at the Saturday market and now have their products stocked in Broccoli Row and EcoMoon Boutique.

Working in a kindergarten meant they were able to see how the wraps were used by children and the reusable product tied in well with the litter-free lunchbox concept schools were beginning to adopt.

"Children manage it really well, its firm enough and easy for them to find the ends," said Hansen.

They can be used in a number of ways, to wrap sandwiches and baking, to cover plates and as lids on jars. They soften when handled, harden in the fridge, can be wiped clean and the beeswax has antibacterial properties.

They have found those who are interested in living more sustainably and reducing their use of plastic have taken interest in the wraps.

"Being plastic-free is really hard" said Brown. "It's a shift in thinking and people are beginning to do that."



Waste Education Services

funded by Nelson City Council

Email: sarahlangi@nec.org.nz

Phone: Nelson Environment Centre: 545 9176 ext 1

www.wes.org.nz

Links to Pope Francis's Encyclical Letter June 18 2015

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jun/18/pope-francis-encyclical-extract>

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

Check out the **Sustainable Greenlist Directory** if you

need more information about the sustainability of your centre/school purchases. This directory is designed to help staff and students to make informed purchasing decisions. The products and services in the Enviroschools section of Greenlist can assist your school with waste minimisation, reducing energy and water consumption, sustainable building and landscaping projects.

<http://www.greenlist.co.nz/Channel/1/Enviroschools.aspx>

Energy Globe Awards 2016:

Sustainable initiatives and innovative projects from around the world can be submitted again for the 2016 Energy Globe awards.

Eligible for participation are projects with a focus on saving resources, improving air, soil, or water quality, increasing energy efficiency, using renewables, as well as anyone making a contribution towards the fight against climate change. No project is too small and none is too big!

Projects can be entered by individuals as well as companies, organizations, and public authorities. Several projects may be entered by a single competitor. Entry is free of charge.

For more information see below, or follow the link: <http://www.energyglobe.info/participation/>

Container Deposits: What's the incentive? Revolve magazine July 2015

<http://www.wasteminz.org.nz/pubs/revolve-magazine-july-2015-issue-156/>

Dorte Wray highlights the success of container deposit systems and explores the potential for introducing a similar scheme in New Zealand.

In South Australia, residents can obtain a 10 cent refund by returning used drink containers (including Tetra Pak) to more than 130 collection points around the state, achieving an 80% recycling rate. New Zealanders consume nearly two billion beverages a year; less than 40% of the empty containers are recycled. Countries with container deposit schemes (CDS) achieve 85–90 % recycling rates. Auckland and Tauranga councils are currently expressing support for introducing the scheme in NZ.

Top consumer brands pledge to halve food waste by 2025 (INT)

The world's top food and drink companies have promised to halve the food they waste by 2025, seeking to pre-empt government regulation. Some of these companies are Nestlé, Unilever and Coca Cola.

NZI Sustainable Business Award

Would you like to acknowledge a particular business or owner that has supported your centre or school on your sustainability learning and action journey? You could nominate them for a NZI Sustainable Business Award.

The Awards, which are New Zealand's premier sustainable business awards, celebrate excellence in innovation and impact. It's easy and free to enter, and the awards are open to any organisation or individual.

You can enter in any (or all!) of the following categories, or you can nominate someone else:

- Sustainability Champion
- Communicating Sustainability
- Renewables (Impact and/or Innovation)
- Community (Impact and/or Innovation)
- Mega efficiency (Impact and/or Innovation)
- Restorative (Impact and/or Innovation)

Find out more about the Awards here: <http://sustainable.org.nz/awards/>

Entries close on 10th August.

If you have any questions about entering, simply email awards@sustainable.org.nz

Sustainable Coastlines – An invitation to our adult workshops with anyone who might be interested. We've had some great success with these FREE workshops, and I hope they might help people who are interested in putting on their own events or public speaking events. Please direct interested parties to register through our event pages:

FREE [Presentation Delivery Workshop](#) - 6:30pm on Wednesday 12 August @ the Nelson Environment Centre

FREE [Event Management Workshop](#) – 6:30pm on Thursday 13 August @ the Nelson Environment Centre

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have questions – Oliver 021 025 98301



The Science Learning Hub is running a series of free, online, professional development courses: Teachers using the Hub.

In this series teachers will talk about how they have used the Science Learning Hub in the classroom. The first one began on 30th July. They will run every second Thursday after that. Teachers can adapt resources to suit all levels.

In the first session (4 – 4:45pm, 30th July) Barb Ryan talked to teacher, Angela Schipper, about how she used the Butterfly Science Story in the classroom. Year 4 students developed science skills as they participated in citizen science. It is suitable for all primary levels and for lower secondary science.

For more information: <http://sciencelearn.org.nz/News-Events/Events/Butterflies-and-citizen-science>

Register at: <http://bit.ly/1SyAj23>

Link to their virtual Science Learning Hub Conference Room
<https://webconference.waikato.ac.nz/nzsciencelearn>

Science Learning Hub: <http://sciencelearn.org.nz/>



Conservation Week, 1 -8 November 2015

Healthy Parks Healthy People

Get outdoors and into nature this Conservation Week.

DOC and our partners are hosting events around the country in beautiful New Zealand landscapes, making it easy for you to head along and discover new places.

There will be lots of activities and competitions for you and your family to take part in. Whether it's a treasure hunt in your region or a virtual treasure hunt, you're sure to have some fun.

Nature is everywhere. It has the power to not only invigorate, refresh, and amaze you, but it can also be beneficial to your body and mind.

Get outside, take your kids, and experience it for yourself.



Golden Bay Schools – keep the ability to have a day out with DOC and TDC at Farewell Spit.

Planning is underway. We will be in contact soon.

Activity one: 7 days of Garbage

An art activity on waste for intermediate/ Years 9-10 students
Adapted from What a Waste! Facing the future Series
had students view Gregg Segal's online art exhibit
"7 Days of Garbage" that shows a series of photos
of friends and neighbours with the garbage they
accumulated in one week.

Task; Using different art media, e.g. drawing, painting, photography,
printmaking, and digital design, individual students or small
groups create their own art exhibit to demonstrate the
amount of waste in their community.

Warning: gloves must be worn when handling rubbish



<http://www.treehugger.com/culture/photos-families-in-7-days-of-garbage-gregg-segal.html>

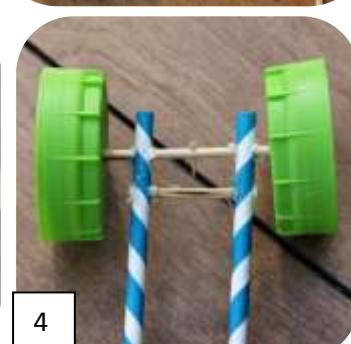
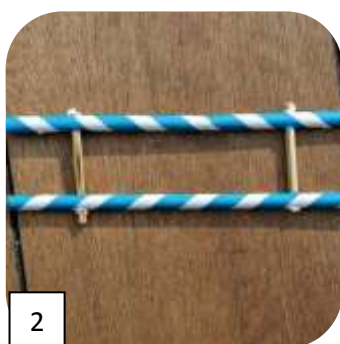
Gardening Inspiration



Activity two: Make Rubberband Racers

Resources:

- 2 strong straws (this will be the frame of the car)
- 4 toothpicks (or wooden skewers)
- 4 container lids (from a milk container or prescription caps)
- Rubber band (or Rainbow Loom Bands—great way to use the millions that are just lying around)
- Hot glue gun
- Drill (with small drill bits) or other means of making holes

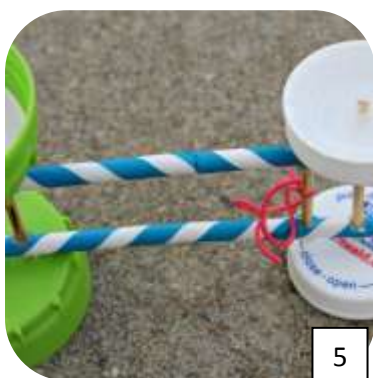


First, use a ruler to figure out where the holes go on the straws, because this is where the toothpicks were going to go (see picture above). Each straw has four holes. Two holes are drilled at each end of the straw. On each side, drill the first hole 1.27cm in from the end and the second hole 2.54cm from the end. Repeat on the opposite side of the straw. Then repeat on the second straw (See picture above).

The first line, 1.27cm back, will be used for the wheel axels. These holes should be made a little larger and will allow the wheels to move freely.

The second set of holes, 2.54cm back, will be used for the structure supports. These holes should be a bit smaller and the toothpick should fit snug into each straw. Push a toothpick through each structure hole (2.54cm marked hole) so the pointed tips are sticking out on both sides.

Next, use the hot glue gun and glue the toothpicks to the straws. Once dry, cut the pointed ends off the toothpicks and place a little glue on the out side section of the straw.



Now for the wheels. Drill a hole in the center of each lid just large enough for the toothpick to fit snug into. On one of the toothpicks, drill a very small hole in the center. In this hole place a toothpick end (the point) that you cut off to make a peg (see picture 3 above).

The peg will help when winding up the car to make it go. This toothpick will be your rear axel. Make sure to attach the larger caps to this one if using different sizes for the wheels.



Now to assemble. Start with the rear axel. Place the tooth pick in each hole, and attach each wheel. Note: At this point, you will want your peg (picture 3) to be in right in the center.

Once the toothpick is in place you can attach each wheel and glue them into place.

Repeat this step for the front axel.

Note: you may want to add some more glue to the caps on the rear axel to give it some added weight. This will keep the car tires from just spinning when the car is ready. Another tip would be to use a little Playdough or platercine to pack in the caps.

Now that your car is built... Attach the rubber band (or rainbow loom bands) to the front structure support.

Once attached, place the opposite side on the rear axel peg and slowly wind up the tires and test it out.

Now - Have fun!