

# Enviroschools TARANAKI

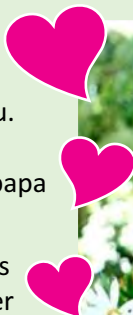


Term 3 Panui 2021

## Kia ora Lizzy

The lovely Lizzy Brouwers stepped aside from being an Enviroschools facilitator this year to focus on her whanau. Lizzy joined the Enviroschools whanau at Te Mauri Tau in Raglan almost 10 years ago. She fully embraced the kaupapa and it became a real extension to her wonderful soul.

If you visited Lizzy at home or at one of the kindergartens she's worked at, you'd be wrapped up in manaaki and her wonderful embrace and enthusiasm. Lizzy has gone from strength to strength within Kindergarten Taranaki and the Enviroschools kaupapa and we mihi to her as we carry on with her kind words, her fierce passion and her lovely smile.



*Kia kaha Lizzy from all of your Enviroschools whanau in Taranaki as well as nationally.*

## What our schools have been up to...



### Weaving in Waitara

As part of the Sustainable Communities through Kai initiative we have been able to support Waitara-based Enviroschools to start their weaving journey. This included working with Gypsy and Karen from KareNZ Kitz plus our Enviroschools team to learn tikanga around growing, harvesting, preparing and weaving the harakeke. Students also learnt about the difference between flax and harakeke. This term our Enviroschools staff will run workshops in school with attendees to support the tuakana teina aspect of teaching others and learning together with the next steps of creating kono and waikawa.



### Nau mai haere mai ki te Enviroschools waka

We're excited about these schools joining Enviroschools! A big welcome to **Kaimata School, Bell Block** and the **Stratford High School Teen Parent Unit**. Check out what Bell Block have been getting up to further in this panui.

Taranaki Enviroschools is proudly supported by

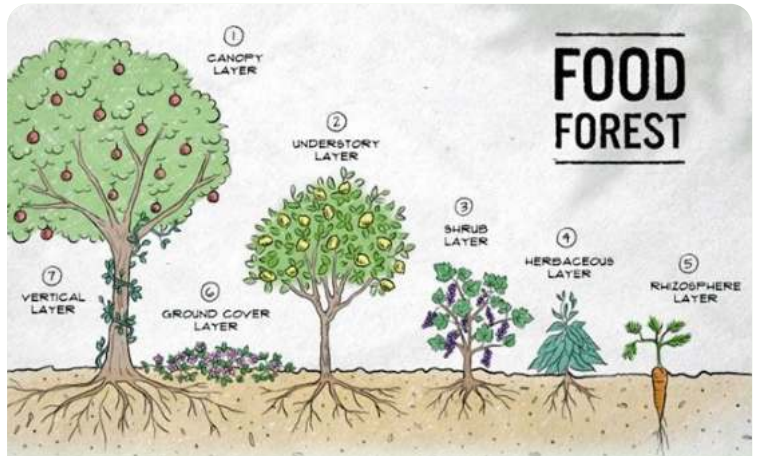


# What our schools have been up to



## Mokoia Beach Litter Survey

Enviroschools Taranaki staff are now Facilitators for the Litter Surveys through Sustainable Coastlines. The senior students at Mokoia School, along with Ben Knight from Sustainable Coastlines and their Enviroschools facilitator, conducted a beach litter survey at Manutahi Beach. Together, they collected 139 pieces of litter in the 2000 square metre quadrant. The vast majority of this litter was plastic. The students separated all of the litter into categories and then imputed the data into the [Litter Intelligence](#) website. The students intend to monitor the site by conducting further surveys over the next year. Well done team!



## Midhirst School

### Building food resilience through Permaculture

Since Midhirst became an Enviroschool they have been doing a deep dive into what sustainability means to them. This has incorporated many aspects of their connection to place, people, their history and how they might be able to build on that. One way has been through regular engagement with Sue Rine who brings her Horticulture and Permaculture expertise to work alongside the school and Whakaahurangi Marae on food systems thinking. As their learning has grown, so has their action for and in the environment. They are now developing a food forest.



## Opūnake High School continue to work on the Opūnake Loop Trail

On the last day of Term 2, Year 13 students and teachers gathered at the Waiau River bank to continue restoration planting - part of an ongoing project involving community groups and kura. In 2020 Opūnake High helped plant 3000 native trees and this year another 2500 to 3000 will be planted. Students, teachers and members of the Loop Trail Committee planted about 300 trees and 50 flaxes in this session. They also mulched around the trees with sheep dags to suppress weeds. It is awesome to see the kura and community working towards a common goal of restoring Opūnake's ecosystems.





## What do you do when we're all so busy being busy and can't get together?

We bring in the cluster concept and work collaboratively. That's what Richard and Lauree are doing with the top North Taranaki EnviroSchools. They've been running tech groups, action days and planning enviro events with a cluster of schools to maximise learning. If you think this might work for your group, let us know.



### Weaving in Hāwera High School

A group of students were keen to learn different weaving techniques. They began with learning about the tikanga around harvesting harakeke, and which harakeke is best for weaving. They harvested what we needed and began the weaving process. Initially the students learnt to weave three different putiputi. They also learnt how to make harakeke lace using a pasta machine. Once each student had made at least one bouquet each, they learnt how to prepare harakeke for weaving a kono. This involved using a haehae to get strips of an even width, then softening each strip to remove moisture content. The students were very quick learners and proved to be natural weavers. We wish them all the best as they continue to develop their skills further.



### Moturoa are off to Goat Island

Moturoa School have been busy little bees preparing fundraising items out of sustainably sourced materials and held a wonderful evening of sharing, selling and feeding the supportive hoards who attended. The students presented and ran the evening sharing information about their long term sustainability journey. Attendees got to hear from past and present students about what drives their action for the environment and what their plans are for the future. It was brilliant! The fundraising evening raised \$2,179 of the \$5,000 needed to get to **Goat Island**. They also have a Quiz Night coming up soon so watch out for that. If you haven't heard about Goat Island before, check out this [link](#) to see more and the reason why we all love it so much. Speaking of learning - most of the school have also done a field trip to look at the rocky shores and who lives there. Creatures were investigated and treated with respect.



### Waitara East delve deep and look wide

Waitara East recently applied for and won a TREEmendous fund which helped them get Bug Man Rudd Kleinpaste and Shark Man Riley Elliott to come to school to work with the whole school on marine/ocean conservation and the importance of sharks as well as all things bug-related. Tiri Bailey even bought in some Piharau or Lampreys (sucker fish) which were a real hit. 'Ka kitea a Matariki, ka rere te korokoro' (when Matariki is seen, the lamprey migrate). Rudd took the students through some interesting and engaging lessons with our native bugs and tamariki learnt to respect the cycles of nature way more as well as hearing more about the importance each insect plays in the cycle of nature. Teachers also really loved their hikoi with Rudd the following day. Rudd is a huge advocate for learning outside the classroom and that was the cool focus.

# Highlight on a new Enviroschool

## Bell Block School launch their Enviroschools Journey

Enviroschools lead teacher for Bell Block Amy Foreman really embraced the principles of sustainability and student empowerment. With her enthusiastic Year 7/8 class, Amy is supporting their exploration and vision of what sustainability looks like with practical mahi both within and outside of the classroom. For example, Amy and her tamariki have been instrumental in re-establishing the beginnings of a maara kai by reusing previously dismantled raised garden bed materials to construct several beds at the rear of the school. Filled with rich soil, the garden beds have already been planted out with a range of winter vegetable plants.

In early July, permaculture guru Sue Rine and Enviroschools Facilitator, Richard Carr, held a composting workshop with Amy's class. A presentation was given which explained the reasons for composting and the processes behind how to create it. Lots of discussion was generated on the advantages of composting material which would otherwise be sent to landfill or wasted.

A practical exercise followed with the construction of compost bins from pallets and a demonstration of how to fill the bins with appropriate material. The saying 'many hands make light work' certainly applied with lots of willing helpers as the picture below shows.

Next on the agenda is the planning and construction of an outdoor learning space in an area adjacent a classroom block on the north west side of the kura.

This will involve student input in planning to maximise the opportunities for students to experience developing a greenfields site into something special. Initial ideas include incorporating planting of native species along with fruit trees. Other features may include spaces in which to sit and pathways that meander through the space



which take advantage of what will eventually become established.

No doubt there will be many other great ideas that the Bell Block School tamariki will be able to explore to help create a lasting testament to their vision and mahi while travelling the Enviroschools kaupapa.



## Central Taranaki Kāhui Ako - Te Kāhui Ako o Taranaki Mohoao embrace their collective learning

The Enviroschools team enjoyed being a part of the Kahui Ako Teacher PD day this term as always. We shared a sample of what we're doing with schools at the moment and what's on offer coming up. We discussed integrating sustainability and environmental education into curriculum at all levels from early childhood through to secondary. Working with the Kāhui Ako is great as the majority of the schools and all kindergartens are Enviroschools. We can also help you with your in-school planning like we did with Stratford Primary School earlier this year.

# Let's have a look at what our team has been up to lately



## World Biodiversity Day

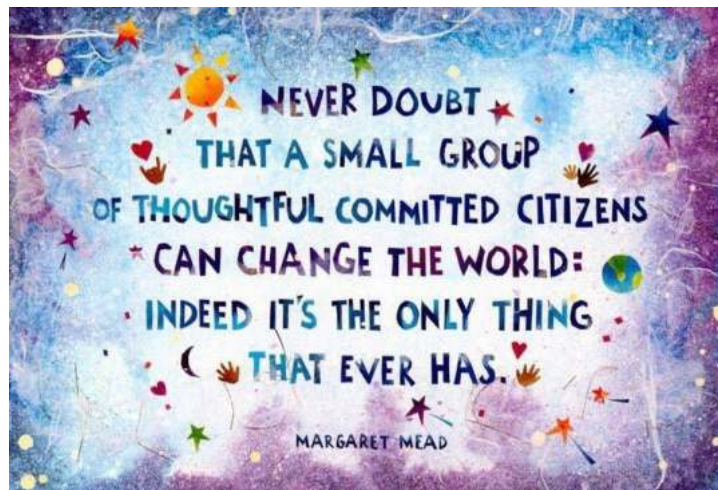
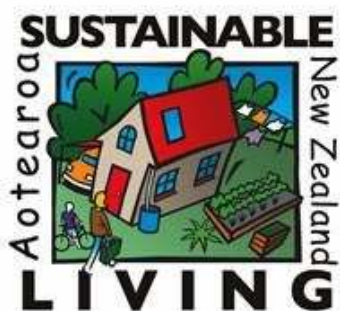
We loved bringing together so many schools and 150 tamariki to Hollards Gardens recently. The EnviroSchools team, Rotokare Scenic Reserve, Department of Conservation, Towards Predator-Free Taranaki team and Taranaki Regional Council all came together to deliver an action-packed day of activities connecting to taiao. Many thanks to our wonderful hosts at such an exceptional venue as [Hollards Gardens](#). Such a great day - wonderful weather, excellent presenters and amazing tamariki.



## Sustainable Living workshops - Future Living Skills

EnviroSchools Taranaki are delivering the Future Living Skills workshops for South Taranaki District Council ... and we're loving it! We're able to reach out and support the wider community through these workshops. Workshops between 8-14 people are great sizes. Get in touch if there's a workshop in particular that you and your community are keen on or if you wish to host one in South Taranaki. Weekend and evening classes available. The calendar is coming out soon and here's the type of workshops we're looking at ...

- Reducing Plastic in your Life
- Grow your own Groceries
- Pimp Your Section for Production (Food Forests)
- Make your own Bathroom, Laundry & Kitchen products
- Composting 3 ways
- No Dig Gardening
- Repair Café
- Propagation
- Grafting
- Green Gifting
- Fermentation
- Bike Repair Café
- Soap making
- Plant Based Meals



## Plastic Free July Taranaki

The EnviroSchools team have been busy showcasing alternatives to single use plastic to schools, community members and councils. It's been a fun interactive series of workshops that can be reproduced at anytime our EnviroSchools are investigating waste. Just let us know. Thanks to those who hosted one of our many workshops. Check out how amazing Waitara High School students showed manaaki to the manuhiri.



## Flying High with Andrew Parker

Earlier this year Andrew decided to showcase his hot air balloon with students across Aotearoa and worked with EnviroSchools in most of his 33 visits. Sustainable Taranaki took the lead here in Taranaki as it was during the school holidays and EnviroSchools went along to share our Energy Theme mahi with those attending. Andrew wanted to highlight the students connection to their world and sustainability. A curriculum-linked document was sent to all schools involved.



# Funding opportunities

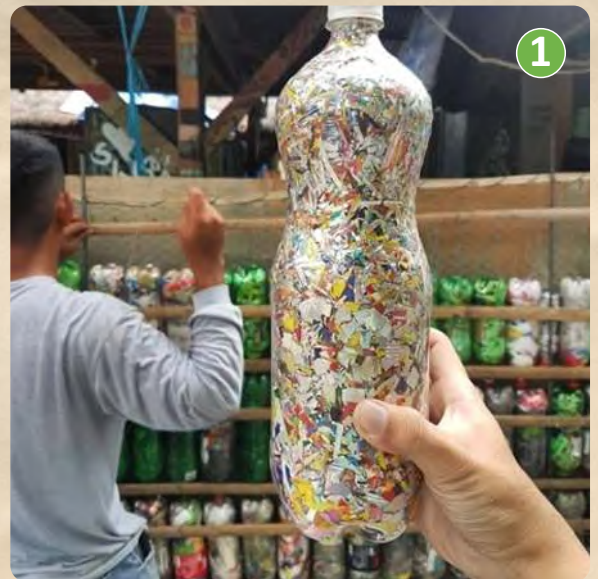


- Thanks to all who applied for the **Earthwise** funding. Taranaki had loads of applicants. Congratulations to Opūnake Kindy and Spotswood College for being successful here. We look forward to walking alongside these initiatives with you.
- If you are looking for some funding for the arts then check out the **Creative NZ funding calendar for 2021 & 2022**
- **Taranaki Foundation** are by nature Taranaki-centric. Check them out. Especially if you have a project in South Taranaki that needs funding at the moment. Most grants are between \$500 - \$5000.
- **Sustainable Communities through Kai initiative.** The last of the fruit trees and bushes are being delivered this term which is a great time for planting. Thanks again to New Plymouth District Council for the additional funding for the north and Toimata Foundation to help us spread the love across the Stratford and South Taranaki regions to help communities build on their food resilience.
- **South Taranaki District Council** is now accepting application for their **National Environments Fund** (previously called the Significant Natural Areas Fund). Details to be found [here](#).

## Theme Area Focus: Waste

Here's some ideas for you to manage the waste streams in your school or kindergarten.

- 1 Single-use plastics** - not much of what is recyclable is actually recycled so let's take responsibility for our waste and make something useful. EnviroSchools Taranaki is registered as an **Eco-Brick** creator and we can help you with all the information you need to get going. What is an Eco-Brick? Find out more [here](#)
- 2 If you have the lunch in schools programme how about growing your seedlings in the trays?** If you have loads and want to share, let us know and we can get them rehomed.
- 3 Newspapers, used art paper, old papers can all be made into Fire Bricks.** EnviroSchools have two you could borrow or we can come along to set you going. A great summertime activity for next winter.



# Major initiatives



## Soil Your Undies Taranaki

Four lucky schools will work with Enviroschools, land users and scientists to investigate soils of Taranaki through deep investigations at school and on four fieldtrips over the next year thanks to **Curious Minds** funding. Students will find out all about soil, earthworms and dung beetles. It's going to be an exciting challenge!

## Through the Eye of the Lens Taranaki

Track Zero, Taranaki Arts Festival Trust (TAFT) and Enviroschools are bringing you Through the Eye of the Lens Taranaki. Sixteen committed students and their whanau will work with professional photographers and climate scientists to capture what the environment and climate change means to them. Their images will be on display at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery in November. An excellent opportunity for budding photographers!

## Wetlands - a deep dive

Our wonderful team have been creating a set of curriculum-linked documents full of localised material and resources to help do a full focus on wetlands. Separate resources are available for secondary and primary-intermediate. Touch base if this is something you would like to focus on over a term or in 2022. We can do field trips with you to investigate the benefits of wetlands to farms, water conservation, carbon sequestration and more.



# Resources we are loving at the moment



## Conservation Week

We love the Department of Conservation's imagery and resources for the 2021 Conservation Week which runs from 4-12 September. Key messaging for this year is '*Taihoa ake te wā mō te taiao - Take a moment for nature*'. When Papatūānuku thrives, we all thrive. Our personal wellbeing and nature's wellbeing are interconnected.

**How did you go with enjoying and celebrating Puanga/Matariki?** A beautiful time of the year for reflection, appreciation and honouring those who came before us. Check out this [poster](#) and other great resources available from [Te Wānanga O Aotearoa](#).

**Here's an excellent Maramataka** to take us through to Pipiri/June 2022 - pdf download [here](#).



# THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development

## Sustainable Development Goals - taking action for the greater good

Our team can help you unpack one, two or all 17 of the Sustainable Development Goals with narrowed-down focused areas of learning across the ages. We have links to NZC and localised action opportunities that are Taranaki-centric and/or Aotearoa-focused. You and your students can make a difference! Just check out these great [resources](#).





## Events & workshops

There's no reason not to get involved this term. Just look at what's happening in September alone!

### SEPTEMBER

#### This month...

##### Bee Aware Month

Image: Neville Gardner

##### Straw Free September

(Our Seas Our Future)

##### Second Hand September

(Oxfam)



**18 Sept** World Cleanup Day

**22 Sept** World Car Free Day

**26 Sept** World Rivers Day

**29 Sept** International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste

**4–12 Sept**

Conservation Week (DoC)

**13–19 Sept**

Te wiki o te reo Māori (Māori language week);

Keep New Zealand Beautiful Cleanup week

Clean Up Week



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST HERE



## Activities & Resources

As we transition through the Levels of Lockdown, here's some things we're working on that you can share with your tamariki. Let us know if you want these resources.

**Looking for Lizards** – set up your own Lizard garden and identify Taranaki's own Lizards and Geckos. [More info.](#)

**Connecting to Taiao** – This is a great time to get outside and connect with nature. There are loads of great activities in our Nature in the Environment info [booklet](#)

**Backyard Biodiversity** – check out things you can do right in your own backyard with Emily from TRC and Ash from Rotokare. View [here](#).

If you haven't registered yet for the website [www.enviroschools.org.nz](http://www.enviroschools.org.nz) all you need is your email address and your school/kindergarten MoE number.

PLUS we have loads of support resources, links and fun learning activities being updated and developed. Let us know what you want or need. We can help!

*Stay safe and well in your bubbles!*

## Teacher PD Workshops

\*Face-to-face workshops held at Levels 2 & 1 only

**Tuesday 31st August**

**Propagation, grafting and pruning**

3.30-5.30 at T... Gardener, 1729 South Road, Tataraimaka

**POSTPONED**



**Wednesday 15th September**

**Grow Your Own**

3.30-5.30 at Mot... School TBC

**POSTPONED**

**Wednesday 10th November**

**Green Gifting**

3.30-5.30 at Stratford Primary School

RSVP to [enviroschools@trc.govt.nz](mailto:enviroschools@trc.govt.nz)

**Book now!**



To know more or register for any events listed, please contact us or visit [www.enviroschools.org.nz](http://www.enviroschools.org.nz)

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