

# Enviroschools TARANAKI

DECEMBER 2018



## Meri Kirihimete *and a happy holiday season*

**Congratulations on working through such a busy year!**  
It's nearly time for a well-deserved rest and time to refill the cellars – so-to-speak – spending time with friends and whānau.

Before you all go, I wanted to review our celebrations and events throughout the year.

**8 Enviroschools** went through the Holistic Reflection process including our first Green-Gold Enviroschool in the North Taranaki district. Congratulations to you all!

### Professional development events

with the Fruity Gardener, weaving, Holistic Reflection preparation, unpacking the Enviroschools kaupapa, Mountain to Sea, Water of Life theme area, Arbor Day event with Asplundh and NPDC, and a road trip to St Johns Hill School in Whanganui.

**Plastic Free July** Taranaki events included presenting at Living the Change film screenings in Opunake and New Plymouth and a fun interactive learning day at Puke Ariki.

Around 16,000 **Little Gardens** given away thanks to New World New Plymouth.

A huge **working bee** at Uruti by the IVHQ team.



Our **Boomerang Bags** for Taranaki Enviroschools count is now over 3000 including some lovely TSB Bank and NPDC flags being re-purposed into bags.



We attended and presented at the biannual **Climate Change and NZAEE conference**.

We attended the **WaiRestoration hui** in Northland and learnt all about WaiFencing, WaiNurseries, WaiPlanting, WaiMaintenance, WaiMonitoring, WaiEnterprise and Save a Species with educators from Taranaki Regional Council and Department of Conservation.

**Enviro Day** held at Rotokare Scenic Reserve with 146 tamariki and 10 schools represented this year.

The team at Kindergarten Taranaki and Lauree attended the **Early Childhood Education hui** in Auckland to immerse ourselves in pūrākau, games and activities and other professional development.

We've upskilled regionally in our relationships with each other crossing bridges culturally and across diversity. In doing so, we've increased understandings, made more friends, opened gates and doors, expanded our puna mātauranga (pool of knowledge).

## Community connections

Networks strengthened with:

New Plymouth Volunteering, our lovely local Libraries, KareNZ Kitz, Seedsavers, Rethinking Plastic Revolution, Waste Minimisation teams, Wild for Taranaki membership, Sustainable Taranaki including the Impact Team, Para Kore, Upcycle Taranaki, Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust, Puke Ariki Education team, Department of Conservation education team, Heart Foundation and the Public Health team.



Taranaki Enviroschools is proudly supported by



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## BIG News!

And perhaps the biggest news of the year was that the Taranaki Regional Council has included funding the Regional Coordinator role of the Enviroschools kaupapa as part of its commitment to delivering environmental education. In-school Facilitation continues to be strongly supported by our partners - South Taranaki District Council, Stratford District Council, New Plymouth District Council and International Volunteer Headquarters.

We're also maintaining our fabulous relationships with the Kindergarten Association in Taranaki and Toimata Foundation.

Phew! What a year! Thanks for contributing to a better tomorrow. Your efforts - planning, finding funding, creating action, driving, digging and learning is all truly appreciated!

As we reflect on the past, we celebrate our successes, learn from our challenges and plan for the future. Let's have a quick look at what that future looks like ....



## New Enviroschools



We've got **13 new Enviroschools** starting their journey next year including 10 from Kindergarten Taranaki. This brings their commitment to Enviroschools to 100%. This means, if you want your tamariki to start their sustainability journey from the start, then send them to one of the 24 Kindergarten Taranaki Kindergartens.

As well as our 13 new Enviroschools, we now have a robust new **Friends of Enviroschools group**. These 9 schools are beginning their sustainability journey with us for 2019 with the hope to come on board the Enviroschools waka fully in the future where capacity permits.

## Our team is expanding

Welcome Esther Ward-Campbell to the Enviroschools waka!



*Tena koutou.*

*My name is Esther Ward-Campbell and I am really looking forward to joining the Enviroschools team this Summer.*

*I grew up in Takaka at the top of the South Island and started my working life as a chef in Tasman Bay before joining the Outward Bound crew in Anakiwa in the Marlborough Sounds. I remained there for the next 16 years before training to be a Primary Teacher. For the past 8 years I have been teaching in South Taranaki.*

*I love gardening, cooking and travel adventures (especially on a bike). I feel passionate about creating healthy environments and people through sustainable practices. I look forward to working with other groups and individuals to promote and build healthy communities.*



## We're taking a break

**From Wednesday 19th December we're going to have a break and will return on Monday 7th January.**

