

# enviroschools

BAY OF PLENTY ISSUE 20 | TERM FOUR 2011

## Kia ora koutou

Sustainability stretches right across the learning areas in school, and of course into our homes and businesses. Over winter I've been lucky enough to work with four schools on their vision maps. It has taken some really deep thinking by students to plan the future of their schools. The results are inspiring and show the wide range of ideas EnviroSchools encompasses. If you think your school is ready to make your own vision, or revisit an old one, check out the Me and My Environment section of the kit and contact your facilitator.

Education for Sustainability (EfS) is now recognised as a subject that contributes towards University Entrance, so we're looking at how we can support secondary schools to make the most of this change. There is a free workshop coming up for secondary teachers in term four. Find out how other schools have been incorporating EfS in their classes in the Bay and nationwide.

Our team welcomed back Sally-Anne Daniell at the beginning of term three after a year's maternity leave. She will be leading our workshop programme, youth initiatives, facilitating Rotorua EnviroSchools, plus coordinating our regional EnviroSchool hui this term at Otonga School in Rotorua. Great to have you back on board Sal!

**Naku noa**  
**Stephanie Twaddle**  
EnviroSchools Regional Coordinator,  
Bay of Plenty Regional Council

## These schools have a vision!

*Right: Student representatives from every class at Fairhaven School worked together to create a draft vision map.*

*Below: Te Ranga students share their draft vision map.*



## Contacts

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# EfS approved subject for University Entrance

NZQA has announced that Education for Sustainability will join the list of UE approved subjects in 2012. This means that EfS credits from the standards at Level 3 can from 2012 be counted towards UE. This should be a great impetus to high schools to offer the standards. For more information visit [http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/\\_generated\\_pdfs/ue-num-and-lit-2-3760.pdf](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/_generated_pdfs/ue-num-and-lit-2-3760.pdf)

This workshop is suitable for all interested and/or active secondary teachers. Education for Sustainability can be taught as a component of many learning areas such as science, social science, economics, English or math. Teacher release is available. If you are interested in attending this workshop please RSVP as soon as possible to [jackie.read@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:jackie.read@boprc.govt.nz)



## Education for Sustainability workshop

Bay of Plenty secondary school teachers are invited to a participatory workshop to share resources and experiences on Education for Sustainability.

We will explore:

- What is happening in schools around the Bay and nationwide
- Linking sustainability with the NZC and long-term planning
- Education for Sustainability: the new NZQA UE approved subject for 2012
- Getting inspired and celebrating success

**Thursday 10 November**

Venue to be advised

## Bay teachers get ready to get thru

“What’s the plan. Stan?” was the focus for teachers from kindergarten, primary and secondary schools at a Civil Defence workshop in Tauranga hosted by Bay of Plenty Regional Council staff.

Participants looked at the local support structure for Civil Defence, emergency preparations in their school and tried out teaching activities they could use with their students. “What’s the Plan Stan?”, a Ministry of Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) teaching resource, takes students through a process of reducing risk, getting ready, responding and recovering from a disaster.

This workshop was planned to increase awareness of hazards and promote preparedness in the Bay of Plenty. Ideally every school in the region should have an active best-practice emergency response plan in 2012.

A highlight for teachers was the risk analysis of the hazards in the Bay of Plenty. Our top three issues are flooding, coastal storms and animal disease based on likelihood and potential consequences. A survey of Bay of Plenty Schools earlier this year suggested that 90 percent of schools regularly hold fire and earthquake drills but may not be as well prepared for other more common local hazards.

Schools wanting further support or advice should contact their local council or visit [www.bopcivildefence.govt.nz](http://www.bopcivildefence.govt.nz) for further information.



Teachers from around the region plan for teaching Civil Defence preparedness.



“This is something we all need to know. We have work to be done at our school.”

Teacher feedback.

# Selwyn School Ready for the Silver

Selwyn School Envirogroup had a great morning as we went through the Silver Reflection process. The students were very knowledgeable about the actions that are happening in the school, both past and present. It was great for them to do a timeline to see all the projects that have happened- the successful ones and the few that could be re-examined. A "Future Thinking" chart was produced to help them progress on their Enviroschools journey.

At the end of the morning, reading through the Silver Paragraph the students could see where their school's strong points were and where other areas require a bit more attention. The Envirogroup is now ready to address these areas and focus on gaining silver before the year is out. All the best Selwyn, you can do it!



*Taneatua students at the ecological building themed 2010 Regional Enviroschools hui.*

## What Selwyn students thought about the reflection process

**Q** How did students feel about the Silver process?

**A** Excited, shy, nervous at first, then hard sometimes due to questions, and then pleased that we just about got silver!

**Q** What went well?

**A** We know the GPs, we answered questions honestly, we had a good variety of students

**Q** What we could do better?

**A** Not to be shy, use a talking stick.

## Bay of Plenty Enviroschools Hui



All Bay of Plenty Enviroschools are invited to attend our annual regional hui hosted by Otonga School, Rotorua. These events are always a great chance to meet other envirogroups and teachers. Schools may bring up to five students plus one adult (teacher, parent, caretaker etc). Teacher release will be available on request. Transport will be organised from Tauranga and Whakatāne if there is sufficient interest. Your facilitator will send out registration forms in week one of term four. Otonga will be sharing some of their Enviroschools projects - Butterfly garden, adopt a stream, and worm farms plus all students will be involved in a hands-on project.

**Friday 18 November (Week 4)**

**10.30am - 1.30pm**

**Otonga School, Otonga Road, Rotorua**



# Earth to earth scrapbook entries



Thank you to all the schools that entered a scrapbook page this year. Truly inspiring stuff.

The theme Earth to Earth was celebrated in lots of different ways by Bay schools. Your pages included composting, lunar gardening, beneficial bees, garage sales, recycling, worm farming, native gardens, creepy crawlies, litterless lunches, arbour day plantings, butterfly gardens, vegetables, releasing kiwi, making juices, murals, bamboo sun shades, heritage seeds and renewable energy! Right now entries from around the country are being put together into one big scrapbook for 2011. Look out for your copy arriving in the mail in early December.



Rotorua Intermediate students plan their page at an Enviroschools workshop with the help of visiting Gisbourne facilitator Kirsty Maclaurin. Thanks Kirst!



Examples of 2011 scrapbook pages from Waiōtahe Valley, Otonga Primary and Bethlehem Primary

## In other news

### Kids voting for November

Register your school if you would like to take part in Kids Voting for the upcoming national election and referendum. It's a free programme independent of any political party to encourage understanding (and hopefully future participation) of the electoral system. [www.kidsvoting.org.nz/teachers/index.html](http://www.kidsvoting.org.nz/teachers/index.html)

### 'Sustainability in ECE: Aotearoa' Conference

Four Enviroschool kindergartens presented at the Tauranga Region Kindergarten Association conference in July. Each shared the highlights of their journey. Notes from the conference are available on the members section of the Enviroschools website [www.enviroschools.org.nz](http://www.enviroschools.org.nz)

### Safety on the Internet

SuperClubplus is a safety net on the internet for kids and schools. TelstraClear has teamed up with Cyber safety expert Dr Martyn Wild to sponsor FREE membership to NZ Schools during 2011. Check out [www.telstraclear.co.nz/sub-sites/superclubplus/](http://www.telstraclear.co.nz/sub-sites/superclubplus/)