

## Hawke's Bay Regional Council environmental education highlights in 2022

### A new start to boost the team -

Hinerangi Price came on board in February to primarily work in the secondary school space. We are now in a better position to widen our reach, develop new relationships and resources and encourage more environmental education opportunities across our region. The secondary school sector has so much potential for getting our youth engaged in environmental action.



### Our partners

We continue to liaise and work alongside Napier City Council and Hastings District Council on joint activities. Activities include:

- Waste minimisation action with beach clean ups as well as riparian planting to enhance biodiversity.
- Working with a cross-council team to deliver storm water education for the Ahuriri Estuary.
- The Waiaroha Water Facility being built in the middle of Hastings. This will have an education aspect and we are advising the project team on what this could look like.



### Te Mata Park Trust

Schools have enjoyed visiting the park and using their newly created learning guides. Our EnviroSchools facilitator Sonya Sedgwick has been instrumental in supporting the trust to create these educational resources and join our EnviroSchools on their expeditions up the peak.

**Youth Environment Council** – this year the predominantly all-girl line up included students from Karamu, Hastings Girls', Napier Girls', Taradale and William Colenso High

Schools, Central Hawke's Bay College, and Woodford House.

They gathered support for environmental initiatives within their own schools, as well as take part in other activities on behalf of the environment.



*Students Taking action for climate at the Sound Shell.*

### Hawke's Bay Secondary Schools Environmental Challenge

This new initiative, led by Hinerangi, took place during the year. From a starting line-up of eleven schools we finished with four finalists – the winners were:

- Sacred Heart College – pest control to enhance biodiversity
- Iona College – mask recycling project at the beginning turned into a wider recycling project
- Havelock North High School – a school wide grow your own seedling competition
- Taikura Rudolf Steiner – a net zero carbon goal.

We look forward to repeating this challenge in 2023.



*Joining an assembly at Iona College to present their 2<sup>nd</sup> place certificate.*



**The Local Environmental Action Fund (LEAF)** supports non-profit groups and small business with environmental projects that will help achieve Hawke’s Bay Regional Council’s strategic goals. The fund has a total pool of \$7,500.

### Leaf Fund recipients 2022-23

- Pākōwhai School - \$738 towards their new orchard
- Napier Community Childcare Centre - \$750 towards a compost bin, mini glasshouse, and gardening equipment
- Carlyle Kindergarten - \$750 towards planter boxes, compost, potting mix etc. for new vege patch
- Mahora School - \$750 towards the establishment of a Rongoa garden.
- Havelock North Primary School - \$750 towards extending their native garden
- Havelock North High School - \$60.00 towards their Hawke’s Bay Secondary Schools challenge – potting mix and seedlings
- Patoka School - \$500 towards equipment to raise seedlings
- Havelock North Playcentre - \$750 towards garden equipment including a water timer

**The Napier Repair Café - \$750** these funds were distributed in the previous year however the café had a delayed start due to covid. Below is their update for this year –

*Over the 6 cafes from June to Nov, we have had 237 people come in with 360 items. 256 of those items were able to be repaired (giving us a 71.11% success rate) and the total replacement value of those items combined would have been approximately \$17 555.00. That is a lot of money that we have saved the good people of Napier, and 256 items that have been given a second life and not ended up in landfill.*

### Jan – April

- The early part of 2022 was once again impacted by Covid. This had the effect of slowing down school engagement.
- A highlight was welcoming three new schools into our Enviroschools whānau – Te Mata Primary and Hereworth School in Havelock North and Mahora School in Hastings.

### May - July

- In May we held our first Enviroschools Principals’ Breakfast event, attended by 9 of our local principals. Being more aware of sustainability in a schools strategic planning was our theme and we welcomed Nick Reed, Principal from Havelock North Primary, who shared their vision and process.



- We attended two big school planting days – one at Guthrie Park, Romanes Drive with Te Mata Primary and Hastings District Council.
- The other was with Eskdale School at the Esk River. Eskdale School were successful in receiving \$1000 through 1BT and Toimata Foundation towards this planting project.



- Three other Enviroschools benefited from the total pool of \$3000 received for our region. Te kura o Pakipaki, Nuhaka School and Sherwood School.



### August

- Met with the Aramoana Environmental & Education Trust to share ideas on environmental education resources, activities, and opportunities for visiting school groups.
- We supported Enviroschools silver reflection hui at Omakere School and Havelock North Primary School. The reflection is an opportunity to take stock, see how far you have come, what has been achieved through that sustainability lens, as well as identify next steps.





## September

- We joined a Cultural Cluster Day for a group of schools in Northern Hawke's Bay Led by our EnviroSchool Mohaka and included Putorino, Kotemaori, Putere and Tūtira.
- EnviroSchools HB led a Hue workshop in conjunction with Havelock North Central Kindergarten. The week before it was a Kumara hui.



## October

- We hosted a local day for the New Zealand Association of Environmental Education (NZAEE) Conference and took a bus around some of our top local "outdoor classrooms" – Ātea a Rangī, Te Mata Park, Ōtātara Outdoor Learning Centre and Fish & Game.



- 2022 A & P Show – we returned to the Nature Shed this year and supported the team.



*John the weta man was a big hit. Di Roadley thought so too!*



## November

- Judged an art competition at Greenmeadows Primary School, some of which we showcased at the Climate Action breakfast.
- Participated in the annual Keep Napier Beautiful Recycling Day at Anderson Park.
- Supported an EnviroSchools Green-gold Reflection Day at Sherwood School, Central Hawke's Bay.



## December

- Hosted a small group for a crafty Christmas hands-on session. Using natural foliage and teaching some harakeke weaving. This was enjoyed by the educator team along with teachers from the kindergarten associations.
- Celebrated the work of EnviroSchools at the recent Jack Johnson Concert as part of his "Village Green" not for profit support.



## Summary

2022 was a steady year with some growth and new activities being launched.

We will build on these achievements in 2023 and look forward to being a key player in the environmental education space across our rohe.

Finally, I wish to thank all our funders, facilitators, students, teachers, partners, and collaborators. It takes a team. *Tē tōia, tē haumatia* (Nothing can be achieved without a plan, workforce and way of doing things).

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