



Out-Of-S.I.T.E.

Plastic Fantastic Extravaganza

The junior syndicate at Ramanui School held a very successful exhibition of their talents last term. The children made costumes around the theme 'Four Seasons' from recycled material. They produced a stunning array of wonderfully colourful costumes and invited other schools and parents to view their costumes and performance. Thanks for the invitation Ramanui.



Cowley Lake Planting

Both Manukorihi Intermediate and St Joseph's Waitara were recently involved in planting around 700 native plants on the edge of Cowley Lake near Waitara. This is the second year they have assisted in the long-term planned transformation of the lake margins.

Other schools wishing to assist in planting activities could approach local farmers or contact Graeme at the Council to find out where riparian plans are being implemented.

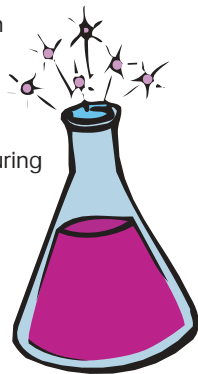


Science Fairs

(1) I attended the Stratford Primary School Science and Technology Fair late in term three. The range of exhibits on display was tremendous. It was obvious that much thought, time and skill had been demonstrated by the pupils. A particularly catching entry was the Water Cress Caterpillars made by one of the junior classes.

(2) The Fonterra Taranaki Science and Technology Fair was also staged during term three. The Taranaki Regional Council congratulates the following exhibitors who received Council sponsored prizes for exhibits showing a strong environmental theme.

Winners were: Y7/8 Stuart Sutherland Highlands Intermediate
Y9/10 Lee Wilson NPBHS
Y11/13 Greg Severinsen NPBHS.



Bits'n'Pieces

Teacher Development Day

What's with the weather?

The third day in our Teacher Development series was held at the Regional Council on 12 August. Eighteen teachers attended.

Content for the day ranged from understanding weather maps to the availability of data on websites. An emphasis was on enabling students to invent and construct their own weather measuring implements.



Teacher workshops

Enclosed with this newsletter are details for the next Teacher Development day.

'Environmental Games' is at the Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom on Thursday 23 October from 1.30-4.00pm. Please use the enclosed enrolment form. Enrolments close on Thursday 16 October and are limited to 25 places.

Answers from page 3:

Match up: 1-e, 2-f, 3-j, 4-g, 5-d, 6-c, 7-a, 8-i, 9-b, 10-h.

Spot the 10 changes: 1-cloud, 2-shirt, 3-bubbles, 4-pole, 5-wave, 6-seahorse, 7-octopus leg, 8-shark eyebrows, 9-starfish spots, 10-shoe sole.

Missing links:

M	I		V	J					
Q	I	N	S	R	E	L	A	Y	
A	F	A	R	A	R	A	S	P	
X	M	O	L	L	U	S	C	A	
L	E	I		I		H	O	W	
E	G	A	R	B	A	G	E	N	
S	H	O	D	R	A	S	P	S	
A	A	O	E	L	E				
A	Z	U	R	E	K	A	Y	A	K
E	N								

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TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER TO SCHOOLS

Welcome back to Term 4

Kia ora katoa

My, how the year has flown. This is the final SITE for 2003.

A significant problem with getting information into schools has become evident during this year. It appears that in some schools all copies of SITE are going to one teacher and then not being distributed to other staff. As our intention is to provide the number of copies to suit your school and teacher requirements it is frustrating to find many staff are not seeing the newsletter or other information enclosed with it. A solution could be to let me know the name of a contact person to whom I can direct the package and who can then distribute the copies to interested staff. If you would like to give this a try contact me with the appropriate staff contact.

A very successful Teacher Development day titled 'What's with the weather?' was held late in term 3 (see page 4). The final offer for 2003 is enclosed with this newsletter. 'Environmental Games' is being held at the Taranaki Regional Council on Thursday, 23 October, from 1.30 to 4.00 pm. Please use the enclosed registration form.

During the holidays three secondary students attended the National Youth Environment Forum in Wellington. Forty-eight representatives from around NZ gathered together at the invitation of the Minister for the Environment to discuss the key environmental issues we face. Our representatives gave an excellent presentation and were great ambassadors for our region.

I was invited to attend the Secondary Teachers Environmental Education seminar in Education House during term 3. The opportunity to inform the schools that attended of the range of topics the Council can assist with was extremely valuable. We receive a steady stream of requests for information from senior students looking at planning issues or environmental effects. Our website (www.trc.govt.nz) is an excellent source of data for these themes.

Enjoy your term and above all else keep safe over the long summer holidays.

Ka kite ano
Graeme

S.I.T.E.

Schools in the Environment

No.27



Whitebait

Keen whitebaiters' lives revolve around the tide chart during the months from mid-August to the end of November as they pursue this little delicacy. This highly valued species of native New Zealand fish has a little known fascinating life cycle.

This issue of SITE highlights the species in the hope that we can better appreciate the delicate nature of their future.

Youth National Environment Forum

The Taranaki Regional Council was invited to send three youth representatives to an Environment Forum sponsored by the Ministry for the Environment in Wellington during the holidays.

A competition was held to select our representatives. Local youth were invited to submit a short essay setting out their views on the state of our local environment and what they thought should be done to help protect it in the future.

Five excellent essays were submitted, and after judging the following students were chosen to represent our region.

Gemma Cartwright, Hawera High School, Greg Severinsen, New Plymouth Boys' High School and Samantha Jamieson, New Plymouth Girls' High School attended the Youth Environment Forum in Wellington. Amanda Stoltz, New Plymouth Girls' High School and Michael Petrowski, Inglewood High School were presented with vouchers for education software, books or stationery.



LR Back: TRC Chairman David Walter, Greg Severinsen, Michael Petrowski
Front: Gemma Cartwright, Amanda Stoltz, Samantha Jamieson.

