



REANZ: Reggio Emilia Aotearoa New Zealand

*Au ana ko te noho tahitanga
O nga whānau, o ngā tuakana
Me ngā teina I roto I te whāriki
ngahere
Ara, ka puawai ngā tamariki a
Matariki*

*Māhia ngā mahi o ngā tamariki
Hei āpōpō ka tū
Hei rangatira*

*Peaceful earthy colours from the forest weave a mat
For the koru frond to rest upon,
smaller koru are securely nestled.
From this embrace stars burst forth to realize their
potential. Fulfill the needs of our children and
tomorrow they stand strong.*

(International Children's Day)

Re vitalising ourselves and others ...

REANZ has seen the impact that relevant and engaging professional learning has had on invigorating teachers over this year. The positive feedback we have received has in turn given us energy to continue the journey of making a difference for children and teachers using the pedagogy of Reggio Emilia as a catalyst for change.

Many of the Principles of the Reggio Emilia Project as written in *'Indications: Preschools and Infant-toddler Centres of the Municipality of Reggio Emilia'*, encapsulate the notion of ongoing learning and research for children, teachers and parents. It talks about 'Participation' where feelings of solidarity, inclusion and responsibility are nurtured and where change occurs. It draws on the ideas that the learning process is fostered by co-participation, research and the exchange of ideas and that learning is generated by motivation and the pleasure of ongoing learning.

The document states; *"On-going professional development is both the right and the duty of each individual and of the group, and is included and taken into consideration in the work schedule and organised collectively in terms of its contents, forms, and the methods of participation of each individual"*.

In this newsletter we will share stories and revisit encounters of professional learning that REANZ has been delivering for you to enjoy!

Reference: Infant-toddler Centres and Preschools Istituzione of the Municipality of Reggio Emilia (2011 3rd printing). *Indications: Preschools and Infant-toddler Centres of the Municipality of Reggio Emilia*. Reggio Emilia, Italy: Reggio Children.

**"Education is the most
powerful weapon which you
can use to change the world".**

Nelson Mandela

The power of professional development is captured here by Narelle who shared this reflection after attending a recent professional learning seminar...

I used to think that it was my role, as a teacher, to help drive children towards finding the answers to their questions...

I now think that it's not necessarily about finding the answers, but more importantly, it's about the journey children take when they are curious and inquisitive. It's about allowing ourselves "***to fall into their intellectual landscape as into a new and wondrous world.***"

What are their thought processes? Where does the mind wander to? What connections are they making along the way? How will their thinking evolve?

Ki runga i te manga - culture, connection and curiosity

Judith Urry from Northland School in Wellington, presented an online webinar, where she shared the curriculum approach she uses to empower her akonga to engage with their local maunga and to utilise the *hundred languages* to learn in a wide variety of domains. Judith collaborated with local ECE kaiako, creating shared excursions and learning experiences including her Year 0/1 students along with the kindergarten and early childhood centre children.



Reflective comments from participants;

Catrinnoack shared; "So inspirational, the kind of teacher I aspire to be. How powerful it is to experience a kaiako who respects the intelligences of children, no matter how young. I'm not surprised the 'gonies' are FOMO! I will be exploring places around my school for next term for an opportunity to find a tūrangawaewae for my new year 1 class.

Leonelle shared; "Kia ora Judith you have awoken my heart... Your kōrero reminded me of the extraordinary in the ordinary that mokopuna would notice; the joy they have in nature, when we visit familiar spaces in our hāpori. I am inspired to try harder...thank you.

And ... "In this competitive world it is so refreshing to hear your learning journey and how important it is for tamariki to connect with people, their place, and community in such meaningful ways".

Culture



Creating a
class culture

Connection



Building connections
with place, people
and curriculum

Curiosity



Fostering
curiosity

The 'Curious Teacher'

Co-designing Curriculum alongside children through the pedagogy of listening

Kirsty Liljegren from Melbourne, Australia has recently presented a series of seminars in Aotearoa, New Zealand. Kirsty was warmly welcomed in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Arrowtown where she met Primary and Early childhood Kaiako/ teachers.

Enthusiastic primary and early childhood teachers nodded, scribbled, and discussed the challenges raised by Kirsty. She started with the Reggio Emilia image of the child as capable and confident in their research, creating and weaving knowledge. Teachers were invited to consider their image of the child, of learning, of the kaiako/teacher and of the environment. This provoked thinking and conversation amongst the participants. Connections were made between a teachers image of the child, and what practice looks like as a result of the image we hold.

Kirsty shared examples of 'teachers as professional marvellers' (Malaguzzi). Goals painted for tamariki were big and bold – young children who can think with others, learn by collaborating and demonstrate an ecological sensibility. Children thrive with teachers who thoughtfully create contexts where everyone thinks together and their results inspire marvelling. Participants went home buzzing. Thank you Kirsty and everyone who attended and made the seminars so incredible! Thanks Kath Cooper!

Creating the conditions....

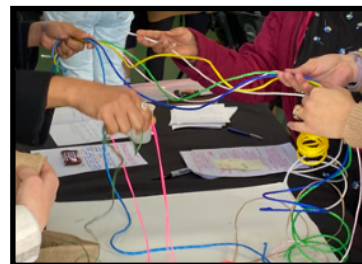
"The objective of education is to increase possibilities for the child to *invent* and *discover*...the aim of teaching is to provide conditions for learning."

Malaguzzi, 1998, p. 82



Connections:

Being present. Children are citizens now. Slow down. Conflicts - Yes! Learning is fluid. Embrace uncertainty. Bowl of Spaghetti, how do we find the end if there is one? Rhizomatic. Interdependence. Professional marveller. Conflict as a learning opportunity. Waiting. Learning is strengthened by the group dimensions. Investing in getting to know the child. Everything in relation.



Professional Development Opportunities

Save the dates and book early ...

Online Learning Community Conversation

The last zoom conversation for 2023 is on **21st September, 7-8pm**. You must register for these conversations by emailing reanz@gmail.com with 'Online Conversations' in the subject line. **They are free to join**. A link will be sent to you a few days before.

RE-Imagining School

Exploring projects in the Primary classroom through a Reggio inspired lens

This interactive seminar will explore the importance of creating a school wide inquiry based curriculum, using the pedagogy of Reggio Emilia as a catalyst for thinking and design of learning.

Friday 6th October 9 - 3.30pm. Hauraki Primary School - Auckland. 82 Jutland Road, Takapuna. \$160pp. (incl gst).

Our opening speaker, Daphne Gaddie is the Head of the Early Learning Centre at Bialik school in Melbourne. Teachers from three schools in Aotearoa, New Zealand will share their experiences and the projects they have undertaken that were inspired by using Reggio pedagogy.

Please register your interest by clicking the [link here](#) and follow the instructions carefully, and complete your details clearly. Please note the registration page is your invoice/receipt.

More information on the REANZ website; [REANZ.org](https://reanz.org)

REANZ For further information please email reanztrust@gmail.com

Reggio Emilia Study Tour 11th - 21st, April 2024

REANZ has the planning underway for the 2024 study tour to Reggio Emilia and is inviting interested people to register their interest by clicking on this link **here**. The registration page will be sent out first to those who register their interest. As we have limited availability, we urge you to get your name down.

This study tour is being led by Helen Aitken, Rachel Dennee and our REANZ Kaiarahi, Brenda Soutar.

We are waiting for Reggio Children to inform us of the cost for registration and also hotel costs at La Posta. As soon as they are available, we will open registrations.

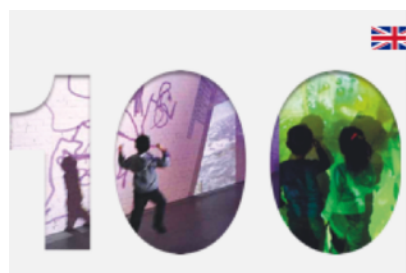
Melbourne Study Tour - 2024

The 2023 Melbourne study tour is in the final stages of planning and we have a register of interest for our 2024 study tour. Contact Chris Bayes for further details. chris.bayes@xtra.co.nz.

Reggio Children Webinars

There are excellent webinars on the Reggio Children website.

<https://www.reggiochildren.it/en/e-learning/webinar-on-demand/>



WEBINAR ON DEMAND

SERIES: THE 100 LANGUAGES OF
CHILDREN AND ADULTS

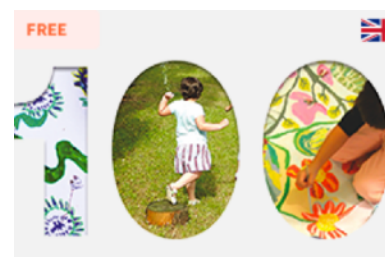
Children and the digital



WEBINAR ON DEMAND

SERIES: THE 100 LANGUAGES OF
CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Children and Clay



WEBINAR ON DEMAND

SERIES: THE 100 LANGUAGES OF
CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Opening multiple doors
to knowledge

Reggio Emilia Australia Information Exchange - REAIE

REANZ has a warm relationship with REAIE and we encourage you to consider becoming a member of this organisation that also promotes the pedagogy of Reggio Emilia. You will find some interesting resources on the REAIE website; <https://reggioaustralia.org.au>

Webinars are available and include ...

The Inclusive Community, The Encounter Series, Conversations with Tiziana Filippini and Jan Millikan, Navigating Social Justice, Reinventing Schooling, The Pedagogy of Welcome and the Transforming Series.

Whakatauki

Nahau te rourou

Naku te rourou

Ka ora ai te manuhiri

With your basket of knowledge

And my basket of knowledge

The people will prosper

Books from the REANZ Library

The REANZ library has a number of fabulous books for you to borrow: Check the books available and the instructions about how to order them, from the website; www.reanz.org

About REANZ

REANZ was established as a Charitable Trust by eleven enthusiastic educationalists. Many of these Trustees had been influenced by Reggio pedagogy since the 1990's. We were all committed to the idea that the pedagogy of Reggio Emilia, in the cultural context of Aotearoa New Zealand, could provide us with innovative thinking and ways of engaging with research in a deeper way.

In June we had the 2023 General Meeting where we welcomed new Trustees and Helen Aitken into the position of Chairperson. Helen has been on the Trust since it's inception so she comes with a lot of knowledge and energy.

Diti Hill is our immediate Past Chairperson and she steered us through the difficult Covid years, providing wise counsel and keeping us all connected. We are very grateful that Diti is continuing on the Trust and that she will continue to be present at our professional development events. Thank you Diti for your service to REANZ over these many, many years!

REANZ Trustees

Chairperson - Helen Aitken

Secretary - Chris Bayes

Treasurer - Karen Liley

Kaiarahi - Brenda Soutar

Patron - Dr Anne Meade

Reggio Children International Network Representative - Lorraine Manuela

Trustees; Diti Hill, Rachel Dennee, Kerri Fallon, Michelle Doherty, Logan Burson, Chrissy Lepper, Lindi Newth.

We all work for REANZ on a voluntary basis and it gives us all great pleasure to know that we are supporting kaiako/teachers in their important work.

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui. The REANZ Trustees.

The REANZ Trustees

Check out our website; reanz@gmail.com

We look forward to connecting with you at future professional development opportunities.

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui.

The REANZ Trustees