



## REANZ: Reggio Emilia Aotearoa New Zealand

*Au ana ko te noho tahitanga  
O ngā 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)

## Another Year Begins

As a New Year begins, we are provided with opportunities to see things as if for the first time. New ideas and new ways of thinking about what has become ordinary, are offered. What unfolds can become extraordinary.

For some, the beginning of 2023 has been difficult with many experiencing the extremes that the weather can send. We send you our wishes that as the year progresses, things will improve. We hope you will see opportunities in the everyday experiences that come your way.

The REANZ Trustees are planning professional learning events for 2023 that will bring new ways of thinking about teaching and learning through seeing the ordinary, through the lens of the pedagogy of Reggio Emilia.



Dame Whina Cooper has been an inspiration to many. Her words are so pertinent to us today.

“Take care of our children. Take care of what they hear, take care of what they see, take care of what they feel. For how the children grow so will be the shape of Aotearoa New Zealand.”

## Nothing Without Joy!

These words are attributed to Loris Malaguzzi. In this article ([link below](#)), from our sister group in Australia, REAIE, they encourage us to think about the joy that teaching brings us. They ask us ‘can we live without joy? Can we teach without joy?’

[https://  
reggioaustralia.org.au/  
reframing-learning-a-](https://reggioaustralia.org.au/reframing-learning-a-)

## Professional Development Opportunities - Save the dates and book early ...

### Online Learning Community Conversations

These three Zoom conversations are facilitated by REANZ Trustees and build on readings and videos that are shared prior to the evening. You must register for these conversations by emailing [reanz@gmail.com](mailto:reanz@gmail.com) with '**Online Conversations**' in the subject line. Include your name and email address.

They are free to join. You will be sent a link a few days before.

**Dates: 18th May, 20th July and 21st September. 7 - 8pm**

### 'Awakening the Curious Teacher' Online Encounters

**Presenter:** Kirsty Liljegren. These two evening Zoom presentations will be held on **21st March and 16th May. \$40. per person.**

Register by emailing [reanztreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:reanztreasurer@gmail.com) with '**Curious Teacher**' in the subject line. Please state name/s attending, email address and give a contact email and details for the invoice to be paid. Once payment has been received, you will be sent the Zoom link a week before the event.

**Kirsty seminars. We are pleased to be welcoming Kirsty Liljegren to Aotearoa New Zealand. Auckland - 29th July. Wellington 1 August, Christchurch 3 August, Queenstown 5 August.**

A separate flier will be emailed once registrations are open.

### Early Years Primary seminar October 2023 - Keep this in mind!

This seminar will explore the principles of Reggio pedagogy through an early years lens. We will share the practice of teachers who are using the principles of Reggio Emilia to enhance the teaching and learning experiences in their classrooms.

### Melbourne Study Tour

Tuesday 5th - 8th September 2023 - details further on.



## REAIE 2023 Conference

This conference is always a great opportunity to deepen understanding of Reggio pedagogy and practice. If you would like to join Lorraine Manuela and attend this conference - 29th June - 1 July, email her at [lorrainemanuela7@gmail.com](mailto:lorrainemanuela7@gmail.com) to register your interest.

## 2023 Melbourne Study Tour - Tuesday 5th Saturday - 8th September

We have the dates set and planning is underway!

**REGISTRATION IS SHARE TWIN \$1520 SINGLE ROOM \$2060 -  
AIRFARES ARE NOT INCLUDED.**

Register your interest by emailing Chris Bayes; [chris.bayes@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chris.bayes@xtra.co.nz)



## Reflections from the 2022 Melbourne tour

The REANZ Melbourne study tour held in October 2022 was rich with learning and connections. Everyone was impressed by the progressive pedagogy and beautiful environments of the centres we visited. As study tour leaders we were also inspired by the professional dialogue amongst the wonderful group of educators and leaders who participated. It was particularly exciting this time because we had not been able to travel for these study tours for three years due to the pandemic, and it was heart-warming to hear how happy the Melbourne teachers were to see our group in person again too.

The participants have shared reflections about the study tour, and we are grateful to be able to share some excerpts here:

'Their agency and autonomy, their interests and curiosities, their identities were celebrated...(and this happens through) teachers being researchers with a disposition to be curious...How important it is to think from this lens, questioning the children during this progettazione process, then re-framing, revisiting. Having the lens of taking a deeper look underpinning the whys and the hows. Acting as a facilitator in children's learning, through observing children, provoking ideas, stimulating their thinking, encouraging collaborative learning, following their interests, asking questions, and using this to further their understanding...Seeing research through the lens of something that is a part of the everyday practice; involving the researching teacher, the researching child and the researching parent.'

- *Tayla McMurchy*

Realising the complexity of materials. 'After the session with Chris and Margo I ponder the idea that 'the map is not the territory, and the name is not the thing' (Bateson, 2002). Through interacting with materials, over a few hours we asked ourselves to consider and question our perceptions, and the truth of our perspective. As kaiako, we should first venture into uncertainty and not knowing by revisiting what we think we already know. And then visit it again. To open ourselves up to experience the new and this is where learning begins. Our learning. The learning



to ignite our passion. We should do all this before we offer interaction with materials and experiences to tamariki.'

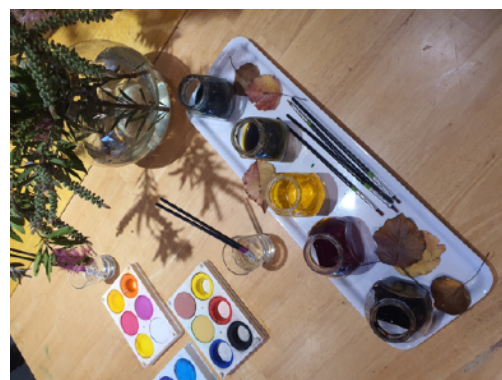
- *Kerri Fallon*

To 'grow our image of the educator (requires) combining skills, information and motivation to move beyond inspiration, towards transformation...doesn't work in isolation...To embed or be inspired by the principles relies on ideas taking hold of us, not us taking hold of ideas. Transformation relies on that idea of taking us beyond imagining, somewhere we haven't been... We invite an emotional response to learning needs of all learners...to see teaching and learning for the first time again and again, to explore more deeply, ask where does the delight come from? To create rhythm and beauty. Become willingly engaged in exploring, discovering and innovating, inspired by the Reggio principles...knowing that complexity, tension, struggle and discomfort is inevitable; to embrace and enjoy it.'

- *Therese Arahill*

Thanks to everyone who attended and all of the amazing teachers, leaders and professional learning facilitators who hosted us in Melbourne. We are excited about planning the 2023 Melbourne study tour and encourage you to consider attending for a fresh perspective and new ideas about Reggio-inspired pedagogy.

Study tour leaders Rachel Denee and Chris Bayes.



## Reggio Emilia 2023

Our first trip to Reggio Emilia since 2019 will be taking place in April 2023. We are so pleased to be welcoming many people who first registered for the cancelled trip in 2020, and we are also delighted that the trip is full! It will be a particularly emotional experience for many of us, as it really is a dream come true to be able to be in Reggio Emilia.

To get the most out of participating in a study tour, we suggest you do plenty of reading and going online to gain a deeper understanding of the Principles of Reggio pedagogy so that the encounter you have is deeper and more meaningful. So perhaps it is now that you embrace the notion that 'someday I'll be going to Reggio' and begin preparing for that to eventuate!

## **Professional Learning opportunities online at <https://www.reggiochildren.it/en/>**

### **Reggio Emilia Exhibitions**

You can also take a walk through and browse these exhibitions on the Reggio Children website here

**<https://www.reggiochildren.it/en/exhibitions/>**

### **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](http://www.reanz.org)

**REANZ is a Charitable Trust** and currently we have nine Trustees who meet regularly throughout the year. We have recently farewelled our wonderful Treasurer Pam Wilson from REANZ South, who kept us on the straight and narrow with all things money. Glenys Waller, who has been the REANZ Primary and Network Coordinator for many years, also resigned as a Trustee. We sincerely thank Pam and Glenys for all the many years of voluntary hours they have given to REANZ.

Our 2023 Trustees; Diti Hill -Denee - Chairperson. Karen Liley - Treasurer. Chris Bayes - Secretary. Lorraine Manuela - International Network Representative - Reggio Children. Michelle Dougherty and Logan Burson - Primary Cordinators. Rachel Denee. Helen Aitken. Kerri Fallon. The Network person will be appointed soon. We feel honoured to have Dr Anne Meade as our Patron and Brenda Soutar as our Kaiarahi.

Supporting the work of the REANZ Trustees, are people in our Regional Networks. We are looking forward to welcoming new people to join our Networks so if you would like to be connected in this way, please send us a message with 'Join Network' in the subject line at [reanz@gmail.com](mailto:reanz@gmail.com)

We look forward to connecting with you at our professional development opportunities over the next few months.

**Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui.**

**The REANZ Trustees**