Welcome to our e-bulletin

Share Your Practice With Others

We know that many early childhood services do interesting, innovative, inspiring work every day. Share your stories with us so others can benefit from your experiences. You can email your stories to us, or share them on our Facebook page or we welcome your comments on our website blog.

Perhaps you’re looking for professional development or more information on a particular area of interest? Tell us what you want to hear more about.

This month we have input from Centre Manager, Sharon Mills Sunnynook Preschool, Auckland.

Celebrating Matariki

The teaching team at Sunnynook Preschool celebrated Matariki for the first time this year. Sharon says “We have been considering how our preschool acknowledges and reflects the unique place of Maori as tangata whenua and how we incorporate Maori pedagogy in our curriculum. This is a new journey for us and we felt that by getting involved in Matariki, we could all learn, grow and deepen our understanding together.”

COMING EVENTS

Early August 2013

Starts Tue 6 Aug 6:30pm
WEST AUCKLAND
WORKSHOP SERIES x 3
Developing Bi-Cultural Practice

Wed 7 Aug, 7:30pm
MANAGERS/OWNERS
Performance Management

Wed 17 Jul 7:30pm
Supporting Spiritual Development in ECE: What Does It Look Like In Practice?

Sat 10 Aug, 9am-12pm
WEST AUCKLAND
WORKSHOP x 1
iPads for Teaching & Learning

EVENT POSTPONEMENT
Apologies, we have had to postpone Sue Breen’s Working with Gifted Children Webinar scheduled for Wednesday 24th July. We will advise a new date as soon as we can.
... Celebrating Matariki

We have explored Matariki and our understanding of who we are as New Zealanders through stories, legends, waiata, art, sewing our own piu piu and headbands and lots more. We also looked to the skies with our parents trying to spot the Seven Sisters (the super moon was pretty spectacular too) and celebrating this time of new growth by building and planting a new garden.

Teachers and children have become more confident in using Te Reo Maori and it is amazing to see children including this more in their conversations with each other and teachers. Maori legends have been enjoyed by all of us and none of us can get Piko Piko out of our heads. Teachers have become more exploratory looking for resources, music and ideas to celebrate our New Zealand heritage.

I have a case where the PRT has not been granted full registration (yet) because the centre’s appraisal document does not clearly link to the Registered Teacher Criteria. It is important to know the Teachers Council expects that:

- Teachers are being appraised regularly; and
- The centre’s appraisal document clearly appraises a teacher’s performance against the Registered Teacher Criteria.

When applying for full registration a PRT may be required to send in a copy of their centre’s appraisal document. Please make sure that teachers in your centre are being regularly appraised against the Registered Teacher Criteria. If this is not already happening then I would advise you to review the appraisal document you are currently using to ensure that it meets the Teachers Council’s expectations and to avoid jeopardising the gaining of teachers’ full registration.

This expectation relates to provisionally registered teachers applying for full registration and also teachers renewing their registration.

Join our next nationwide COP
Tue 13 Aug, 7:30pm

You can also purchase previously recorded webinars at our online shop

Contact us

Looking for a fresh new workshop or meeting space?

Education Unlimited has a lovely space available for hire at 46 Awaora Road, Sunnyvale, West Auckland.

There is capacity for up to 12 people to meet with a boardroom table space and a comfy workshop space.

Venue hire allows full access to all facilities including fully equipped kitchen, garden area and electronic equipment for power point presentations.

There is plenty of street parking too.

Competitive Rates:
$125+GST (8.30am - 5.00pm)
$ 80+GST (6.00pm - 10.00pm)
What is your centre’s impact on the environment?

Marina Bachmann from Collectively Kids in Auckland has been a strong advocate for sustainable ECE practices for many years. This urban early childhood centre, under Marina’s leadership, leads the way for early childhood services in sustainable practice. Marina’s vision and ethos is clearly woven through the centre’s approach and daily practice.

“How we understand, define and live our relationships is pivotal for sustained and sustainable change. As a citizen, parent, teacher and centre owner I am motivated by a growing concern about the impact of climate change. As a centre owner I have an obligation to run a viable business however our focus on sustainability is not about greenwashing or marketing the centre but about making real changes within our immediate community and advocating for change beyond that.

Over recent years environmental issues have become more and more important to me. Everything I have read, heard and seen leaves me with no doubt that the impact of climate change poses the biggest threat to our lives and to the planet. It is the biggest challenge our children will face and it is one that has already had devastating effects on the lives of many children in the developing world.

I believe that this crisis has been brought about by a misunderstanding and ignorance of our place on this earth as humans (particularly in the wealthier nations). We are not in charge of nature but a part of it and through our lack of respect and thoughtlessness we have become destructive and abusive partners.

I believe that we are living the last moments of being able to make ethical decisions which makes this a frightening time BUT also one of possibilities and potential.

If we can get this right then we have the chance of a more just, sustainable and healthy life for the entire earth.”

Marina Bachmann

Hear Marina speak about how Collectively Kids has developed sustainable practice in early childhood education through our recorded webinar in the EU Shop

Developing Bi–Cultural Practice: Responding to ERO’s report

In the National Report summary released by ERO in May 2013, Priorities for children’s learning in Early Childhood Services ERO has strongly indicated A particular area of concern is the lack of responsiveness to Maori and Pacific children in many of the services (ERO, May 2013).

ERO has stressed that better assessment and self-review practices will enable services to be more responsive to all children. So too will the ability to listen, respect and respond to what parents and whānau expect of the service.

In 2013 and beyond it is critical for the educational success of children that ECE services are authentic in their responsiveness to Maori and Pacific children and their whānau. In this three-part workshop series Jannie will focus on how early childhood services can develop bi-cultural practice in partnership with whānau and Iwi through a guided self-review process that will empower teachers to take leadership and action.

This workshop series (in West Auckland) will be limited to 12 participants to ensure robust discussion, reflection and planning for action takes place.

Contact us | www.educationunlimited.co.nz | info@educationunlimited.co.nz
Specifically for Owners/Managers/Administrators

Managing and leading an early childhood service is a rewarding profession which can be challenging at times. As a leader of a learning environment you are responsible for having an understanding of a broad range of employment laws, health and safety as well as Ministry of Education expectations.

Managing staff and ECE funding rules are some of the areas we are most often asked about. Education Unlimited has recently partnered with Info-Care, Employment Law and Kurtovich Consulting to begin developing relevant resources and information for ECE managers, owners, administrators and leaders.

Join us for critical upcoming webinars for ECE leaders.

Unravelling the Frequent Absence Rules

The Ministry of Education funding rules are complex and confusing. Mistakes can be costly. Of the 583 funding audits carried out by the Ministry of Education in the 2010/11 year, 497 (85%) resulted in the Ministry recovering money from the early childhood education service.

In this session Sue Kurtovich will examine the Frequent Absence Rules, their purpose, and how they work in practice. Examples will be given that go beyond the basic information provided in the ECE funding handbook, including what to do when a public holiday falls in the month and what to do when a child is absent but still attends for the maximum funded child hours. Record keeping requirements, including the need to have parents re-confirm or change their child’s enrolment pattern will be explained in detail.

This webinar has been prepared for owners, managers, administrators or anyone who has responsibility for the funding in an ECE service in New Zealand.

Invest 45 minutes of your time with Sue in this live webinar to build your understanding of the ECE funding rules and what this means for your ECE service.

Sue is a well-known and respected consultant in the ECE sector. Formerly president of the NZ Early Childhood Council, Sue now works closely with early childhood services providing support and guidance for successful service management.

There is an opportunity to ask questions.

Register here

Understanding Performance Management in ECE

Performance management of staff in an ECE service can be a challenge for centre supervisors and managers.

How can you establish an effective performance management process that meets current legal obligations?

Justine Foden of Employers’ Law Limited is a solicitor who specialises in providing advice and guidance to ECE services in New Zealand.

Join Justine for this live webinar as she explains the legal obligations ECE managers, centre owners and supervisors need to understand in the performance management process.

Register here
iPad Recommendations

**Book Creator**

This app can be used for many different purposes in the teaching environment. It can be used with children to create their own books and stories.

A great app for embedding multiple media types. For example try embedding video clips, photos and children’s artwork created on other apps or items they have photographed and imported. Invaluable for developing children’s narrative skills as they are able to voice record their own narration of made up or favourite stories.

**Book Creator** is also useful for producing newsletters for your centre. Create the pages in other apps (such as Strip Design, Pic Collage, or Life Cards) and insert them into the book. Videos of children can also be embedded making your newsletter engaging and dynamic. Books can be emailed as a pdf for families who read newsletters on a PC, or as an iBook for families using apple products. Book creator allows you to make dynamic books that children and families will enjoy sharing.

**iPad Workshop**

If you are currently using an iPad in your early childhood centre and would like to develop your skills for using the iPad for teaching and learning then join us for our **iPad Workshop, Sat 10 Aug 9am–12pm, West Auckland.**

This half-day workshop is a hands-on session that will show you how to use educational apps that can help children engage, grow and develop in an ECE setting.

Some of the apps that we will cover are listed below and we recommend you download them prior to the session. Within the session we will also have an ‘App Exchange’ – so bring along any great apps that you have found and share them with the group.

- iBooks
- Strip Design
- Doodle Buddy
- Book Creator
- Pic Collage

Did you know?

If you are not able to attend one of our live webinar events, you can still purchase the recording from our online shop. Once you have purchased the webinar link you can watch it as many times as you like, whenever you like, wherever you like.

Using recorded webinars is a great tool for teams to use as a basis for professional dialogue about topics that are of interest to you.

Provisionally Registered Teachers will benefit from accessing current educational information that can inform and guide practice.

Education Unlimited offers a range of recorded interviews with early childhood professionals that are also valuable for building teachers’ professional knowledge. Check out some of these recordings available in the **EU Shop**

- Developing Sustainable Practices in Early Childhood Education Settings
- Understanding the Provisional Teacher Registration Process
- iPads for Beginners: How to use your iPad effectively
- Attesting 20 Hours ECE
  *For administrators, centre owners and managers*
- Implementing and demonstrating competence of Registered Teachers Criteria 8: Demonstrate in practice knowledge and understanding of how ākonga learn

Also available in the **EU Shop** soon:

- Mentoring in ECE
- Unravelling the Frequent Absence Rules
  *For administrators, centre owners and managers*
- Performance management – the legal ins and outs
  *For administrators, centre owners and managers*

Join us for regular updates, ECE news, teaching suggestions and more on our Facebook page.
WHAT IS A WEBINAR?
A webinar is an online seminar.

Instead of driving to a venue to participate in an event, you can simply log in to the webinar on your work or home computer/iPad.

Our webinars are presented live. You can also purchase recorded copies of them.

For the live event all you need is a high speed internet connection, a computer with sound capability & an email from us with the event details.

Usually the webinar will involve a power point presentation just like in a face-to-face seminar. You won’t necessarily see the presenter, you will simply hear them while watching their onscreen presentation.

To attend a webinar you don’t have to leave home and no-one will know if you attend in your pyjamas 😊

Check out upcoming webinars on our events/bookings page or if you’re looking to buy a recorded one that’s already taken place visit our recordings/shop page.

Looking for in-centre PD for your teaching team?
EU provides experienced, knowledgeable facilitators who can work with your team, in your own centre, at times that are convenient to you. We can work with centres in any part of New Zealand on areas of practice relevant to your centre’s goals and needs. We recommend a minimum of 7 hours to gain the most benefit on one topic. (This includes a one hour initial centre assessment discussion, plus up to six hours of workshop with the teaching team.) Workshops can be held outside of centre hours in the evening or on weekends and can be delivered in one session or divided into three sessions.

Only $1250*+GST. We come to you, when it suits you.
*For centres outside of Auckland travel costs are additional and workshops can only be delivered on weekends or Friday evenings.

Things to consider when choosing your PD:
- Ensure your centre can accommodate the workshop time.
- Check with your employer to see if they will pay for the workshop.

EU is pleased to bring you accessible, affordable, relevant professional development events. We provide a range of options, including:

Face-to-screen | Face-to-face | In-centre | 1:1 Mentoring

August Event Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 6 Aug</td>
<td>6:30pm-8:30pm</td>
<td>Face to Face Workshop Series x3</td>
<td>Jannie Visser</td>
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<td>Tue 3 Sep</td>
<td>6:30pm-8:30pm</td>
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<td>Wed 7 Aug</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Webinar</td>
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<td>Sat 10 Aug</td>
<td>9:00am-12:00pm</td>
<td>Face to Face Workshop x1</td>
<td>Annette Bannon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 13 Aug</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>COP #3</td>
<td>Tamar Weisz-Koves</td>
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<td>Wed 14 Aug</td>
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