



Early Childhood Education Panui Term 4

Check out WestREAP's new look logo! This logo uses the koru from our old logo, showing the continuity and connection to WestREAP's history, while also symbolising the changes and new beginnings that have occurred within our organisation. WestREAP continues to grow and flourish, providing an amazing range of activities and programmes to our learners of all ages. I've included a photo of the WestREAP team above (a few people missing) so you can see the awesome people I get to work with.

Enough about us. What's happening in Early Childhood Education?

We had a busy Term 3 with Melody Makers and playgroups groups back up and running, a new SPACE group underway, the start of the Incredible Years Parenting Programme, the continuation of our Early Learning Support Programme plus more. Tracey Hutt and I ran the Early Reading Together Programme in Greymouth with 14 eager parents (see photo above) and great support from Anthony Hunter at the Grey District Library. One parent commented: *"I have more ideas for how to keep us both engaged in reading – expressions, singing, actions, 'doing' books"*.

We started the Franz Josef Glacier group for new and expectant parents: The Baby Place. This group provides social and educational activities for new and expectant parents and has really taken off with the wonderful support of our Early Learning Facilitator, Marj Vermaat. Walks and coffees are also on the agenda, see the photo below of the group out for a walk on a stunning West Coast day.

I delivered the He Mapuna Te Tamaiti workshop for early childhood teachers in Kaikoura (see photo below) and Westport and also established a support group for West Coast Playgroup co-ordinators

(typically parents who take the role on in an unpaid capacity). We held Transition to School Network meetings in Hokitika and Greymouth with some really good discussion about how lockdown affected transitions for our tamariki.

Shane Stevenson (Psychologist) delivered his Baby Brain presentation to Pipsqueaks playgroup in Hokitika and has plans to do the same for SPACE in Greymouth and The Baby Place in Franz Josef Glacier.

There was also a neat opportunity for children aged 3-7 years to have a bit of a boogie with Zumba Kids by Tamara McGirr. If anyone is interested in this for Term 4 please contact Tamara directly on 027 381 3173.

Music and waiata were on the agenda with Makaira Waugh's Ukelele sessions held at A to Z preschool Greymouth. Check out this [link](#) for a short clip on their progress. Feedback included: *"Makaira was a GREAT TUTOR. Very patient, humorous, skilled, always thinking ahead and I have loved that he brings himself professionally to all the weeks and never judges but giggles alongside us all"*.

Coming up in Term 4:

- Transition to School Network meetings (Hokitika 11th Nov, Greymouth 18th Nov)
- Kumara Playday for 0-6 year olds: 13th November 10am to 1pm at Kumara Hall
- Shane Stevenson (Psychologist) Baby Brain (Greymouth, TBC and Franz Josef Glacier 20th Nov)
- Shane Stevenson (Psychologist) Power of Words (Franz Josef Glacier 20th Nov)
- Ukelele, Te Reo, Kapa Haka and more - Like and Follow our Facebook page for details: <https://www.facebook.com/Westreap>

Ngā mihi

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