



Organisation Mondiale pour L'Éducation Préscolaire
World Organization for Early Childhood Education
Organización Mundial para la Educación Preescolar
Te Rūnanga ā-ao mō te Mātauranga Kōhungahunga

WORLD ORGANISATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

OMEP AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Kia ora koutou; kia ora tatou katoa!

President note

Kia ora koutou. Ngā mihi nui. Ko te tumanako kei te ora koutou katoa.

As I write this it is Te Wiki o te Reo Māori and while the specific focus is this week in reality a commitment is for every day isn't it.

I started thinking about this newsletter when the focus was on Safeguarding week so I want to acknowledge the importance of creating a safe place to work and be.

World OMEP

The OMEP World Conference was held in July in Athens. For the first time in many years Aotearoa NZ was absent although I did attend virtually. A separate report is available. The focus was on the state of the world and ways OMEP could contribute. The declaration, which is on our website, was around upholding peace. There are numerous projects OMEP is involved in and many you can still participate in if you are interested: Right to Education in first three years. Voices. IJEP (the journal) and Education for sustainable development : WASH from the start, Rebuilding Right to Play, Play and Resilience, and Toy Libraries.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

When countries have ratified UNCRC both Government and non government organisations report approximately every five years to the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the ongoing progress of implementation. The reporting process has recently changed with non governmental groups initially posing the areas of concern for the government to report on, then after the government has responded, writing their own report. Children's Rights Alliance Aotearoa New Zealand (formally Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa) coordinate a non-governmental response.

The UN Committee consider the CRAANZ report, together with the reports provided by the Children's Commissioner, the Human Rights Commission, and any thematic reports from other organisations. They then meet with our Government and review Aotearoa's progress on implementing children's rights, which is expected to be in January 2023. Currently CRAANZ is seeking questions that could be posed for our Government to respond to.

When the Committee has examined the evidence they identify areas of concern in their concluding observations for Government to address.

OMEP has contributed to the discussions and the recently sent report which will go before the UN Committee. The CRAANZ AGM was held on 21 September with Judge Elvers, the Children's Commissioner speaking. A discussion at the end of the meeting focused on children's rights and climate change so our current research will be valuable.

Oversight of Oranga Tamariki

Over the last few months I have attended weekly meetings around a collective non-governmental response to the Oversight of Oranga Tamariki submission and the subsequent publicity. It was frustrating that in essence little changed by the final reading in Parliament however it does mean that there will be a large group of non governmental organisations tracking implementation.

Notices

**Next OMEP
discussion evening:
Tuesday 11
October, 7-8 pm
(by Zoom)**

**See section "News
from OMEP" for
further details!**

**OMEP
AOTEAROA
AGM 2022**

**Our elections
will be coming
up in November
so think about
how you might
like to
contribute to
OMEP.**

**Contact us
for further
inquiry!**

To participate alongside organisations who advocate for the best interests of children and young people has been a privilege. The willingness to work collegially, to utilise the strengths of individuals and organisations and to formulate a respectful yet challenging response is powerful.

There were key themes that emerged: slow down the process, gather young people's shared experiences and take these into account in the decision making process, concerns around independent monitoring, strengthening the role of the Children's Commissioner and incorporating a Te Tiriti partnership.

There was a lost opportunity for the Government to demonstrate a commitment to children and young people, however it had been included in the CRAANZ report which had been sent to the United Nations.

Our digital resource

YES the digital resource for For Each and Every Child: He Taonga Tonu Te Tamariki is on our website. Thanks to Amanda for perseverance when we discovered the resource was quite large. A special thanks to the many members for their time, energy, photos, scenarios and feedback in particular Marianne Kayes, Diti Hill and Nola Havey with contributions from many others including Kristy Allen, Linda Petrenko, Pubi Thurai Rajah, Glynne MacKey, Fleur Hohaia-Rollinson, Arapera Card, Gwen Davitt, Jan Beatson, Carol Hartley, Astrid Aagesen, Doris McLay, Helen Bernstone and Amanda. A special thanks to Meg Moss who is storing our OMEP copies. Thanks to Tessa Baty tessbaty@gmail.com for pulling our notes and photos into a cohesive design.

OMEP elections

We welcome Andrea Delaune as Canterbury Rōpū rep and give special thanks to Anita Croft for her tireless work as past Treasurer and Canterbury rep. Our elections will be coming up in November so think about how you might like to contribute to OMEP.

Wishing you all good health as we move into a return to optional mask wearing.

Ngā mihi nui
Charlotte

News from OMEP World & OMEP Aotearoa New Zealand

Next OMEP discussion evening: Tuesday 11 October, 7-8 pm (by Zoom)

Dr Sarah Te One, on Children's Rights in Education

Sarah is a Senior Research Adviser with CORE Education, and a Steering Committee member of the Children's Rights Alliance Aotearoa NZ (CRAANZ). Sarah is also a long-time OMEP member. Her publications include: 2016 with N. Taylor. Children's rights in Aotearoa New Zealand. C. Dalli & A. Meade (Eds.). "Research, Policy and Advocacy in the Early Years". (pp. 48-58) Wellington: NZCER Press.

More information, and Zoom link, will be sent by email.

OMEP AOTEAROA AGM 2022 PRELIMINARY NOTICE of MEETING

Our 2022 AGM will be held on Tuesday 8 November at 7.00 pm, by Zoom. Additional information, including nomination forms, will be sent out in due course. (Nominations must be received by the Secretary 14 days before the AGM.) In the meantime, please give thought to which areas of OMEP's work you might like to become involved in. In addition to Executive/committee positions, there are a number of roles within subcommittees, as well as specific tasks from time to time

Notices

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Project

Check World ESD Awards section!

that we need help with. (You are welcome to get in touch with me to find out more - Marianne, 021 047 1152.)

1. Karakia and welcome
2. Present (Quorum 15 members)
3. Apologies
4. Proxy votes
5. Minutes of the 2020 AGM
6. Business arising from 2020 AGM
7. President's Annual Report
8. Annual Financial report
9. International Report
10. Other reports
11. Election of Executive Committee: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, International Coordinator, and Committee
12. General Business

UN "Transforming Education" Summit

OMEP World participated in this Summit, held from 16-19 September. The programme can be seen at the following link, and presumably has been recorded.

https://www.un.org/en/transforming-education-summit/programme?mc_cid=8cade871b3&mc_eid=9f6715336f

OMEP Aotearoa New Zealand OMEP Aotearoa Rōpū

- *Tāmaki Makaurau Rōpū (Auckland)*

It was gratifying to be able to meet around half of the 32 OMEP Aotearoa members affiliated to Te Tāmaki Makaurau /Auckland Rōpū at the informal, social gathering of members on Monday 29th of August in Mt Eden. Thank you Marianne for hosting our rōpū that enabled us to reconnect in person at last; such a luxury. One of OMEP Aotearoa 's founding members, Helen Bernstone, and World OMEP Life member Robin Houliker were able to attend. We received apologies from Life member Hilary Alach, and members Kerri Iwaskow and Priya Subasinghe as it was a busy time for some families.

A round of re-introductions included each member commenting briefly on their journey with OMEP and Diti, Robin, and Helen were able to provide snippets of historical information alongside each member's story.

During the generous helpings of soup and bread, and 'chocolate bars' that suddenly appeared on the table there were many exchanges about the state of Early Childhood Education in Aotearoa.

We did take time to agree on a further meeting to prioritise a collective focus on the progress of the Early Learning Action Plan (ELAP) and to identify goals for further discussion or action. We will also hear back from Diti Hill-Denee about the OMEP Aotearoa participation in the *ARNEC Climate Change Project*.

Although some had to leave early, the group were able to confirm a further gathering on Monday 19th September, 6:15 - 8.00 pm at the Mt Albert Research Centre-Early Learning Centre, Venue: Mt Albert Research Centre-Early Learning Centre, 120 Mt Albert Road. Mt Albert. Meg Moss has kindly offered to host our gathering.

The role of Co-ordinator for our Rōpū is yet to be confirmed. Currently Nola Harvey has stepped in as Co-ordinator. Thanks to Marianne Kayes and Diti Hill-Denee for contributing.

Nola Harvey: omepauckland@gmail.com

- *Te Whanganui-a-Tara Rōpū (Wellington)*

For the OMEP event in August we engaged in a wonderful exploration of mathematics through a range of hands on experiences and storytelling. Sharing our own favourite mathematical resources created amazing learning opportunities and sparked new interest in integrating mathematical ideas across the curriculum.

Our September session extended our thinking with a focus on project work based on teaching strategies, resources and how the environment is used as the third teacher. One of the local Kindergartens shared their successful project work with passion and enthusiasm and it was very well received .

Louise

- *Waitaha Rōpū (Canterbury)*

Report from the International Coordinator and team

Kia ora koutou katoa!

Climate Change Project

The Climate Change subcommittee has been meeting every 2nd Wednesday since June 2022 to discuss progress and strategies for involving communities across OMEP Aotearoa and OMEP PIN (Fiji). The call for completed templates attached to the readings has now closed off and we have begun the process of collating the information leading to a report for the Bernard Van Leer (BvL) Foundation and ARNEC to be submitted by the end of October. We have had strong support from the Fiji team where Climate Change issues are high on the government agenda. Although this specific project is a short term one (June -October) we are making plans to extend the project to 2023. The issue of mitigating climate change as a child's right is urgent, right across the Asia-Pacific region, including Aotearoa NZ. We received 10 Aotearoa responses to the four BvL articles on the effect climate change will have on children's futures in Aotearoa NZ. We are still open to receiving further responses from all OMEP members and all rōpū, especially since the project will continue on into 2023. Helen Clark (article 2021 linking ECE to Climate Change) states that there is not one nation state/country in the world that has a plan for children's futures. You will find the NZ Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2022 and Helen Clark's article, plus other readings on our website: <https://www.omepaotearoa.org.nz>.

Support for The Early Transitions to Early Childhood Springer Book Launch

DATE to save: Sept 29th, 6pm-8pm

The venue was the University of Canterbury. The event was hosted under the umbrella of PoPHub*. With support from OMEP Aotearoa New Zealand & Te Rito Maioha. The launch led by Professor Carmen Dalli.

This hybrid event focused on presenting academic research to the EC community. The focus was on transitions links to Hauora and Wellbeing, ensuring that the most recent research reaches those who can benefit most – the educators and parents of early childhood tamariki. The speakers were from USA, Finland, Australia, Scotland, Brazil, and New Zealand.

*PoPHub – Pedagogies of Possibilities (University of Canterbury)

The 3rd NZ-China symposium

Date to save: Friday September 23rd 1pm-8pm

OMEP Aotearoa New Zealand has speakers now confirmed for the Symposium on Sept 23rd.

The programme can be found on the [2022 Event Landing Page](#) with the bilingual Event Handbook .

Glynne Mackey and Andi Delaune presented a 20 minute keynote: 'A systems based model for using UNESCO's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in early childhood teacher education'.

Other presenters from Aotearoa New Zealand were Nola Harvey ('Every child a competent and confident communicator') and Arapera Card from te Rito Maioha.

World ESD Awards

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) ranks among OMEP's highest priorities. Since 2010 World OMEP has sponsored a travel award competition for outstanding ESD projects by OMEP members. They have focused on the different dimensions of ESD and on the UN SDGs and Agenda 2030, to an impressive result. Since 2010, the ESD projects have enrolled 142 491 young children, 15 574 teachers, 13 000 families and 1 000 student teachers in Education for Sustainability.

The focus for 2023 will be play in the environment. We are looking for outstanding projects that **focus on play and learning for sustainability**. We would like to see projects that are child-oriented where children are active in play and communication with other children, teachers, families, and communities, in a transformative change for sustainability. SDG 4.2 specifically asks for quality education for young children. We invite all OMEP members to submit their proposals for the 2023 award.

The deadline date for 2023 will be April 15 2023. Information will be sent to the OMEP rōpū soon.

*Ngā mihi nui,
Glynne Mackey
(with Diti Hill-Denee)*

News of the interest

Early Learning Action Plan (ELAP)

For an update on the government's progress with this - Reporting Period June 2022 - September 2022 - go to this [link](#) and scroll down to Dashboard

Recommended reading

“The Hikairo Schema: Culturally responsive teaching and learning in early childhood education settings

This adaptable guide invites kaiako to rethink approaches to engaging tamariki, re-envisage the teacher/learner dynamic, revise old habits, and reconfigure learning environments to acknowledge and embrace cultural differences. Kaiako can use the Hikairo Schema several times over, drawing on their previous experiences to inform and to develop new and innovative ways of facilitating culturally sensitive and inclusive learning settings. This self-paced guide allows kaiako, whānau, and tamariki to collaboratively co-construct goals and outcomes that are relevant to their learning contexts. Kaiako can adapt the Hikairo Schema to fit not only their own needs, but their own pace and level of comfort.” See <https://nzareblog.wordpress.com/2019/06/18/hikairo-ece/>

WaiPRU Annual Picturebook Seminar

Theme: Picturebook Perspectives on Disability and Inclusion

Thursday 17 November 2022

Face to face at the University of Waikato Hamilton Campus, OR Online via Zoom (Zoom link, will be provided closer to the seminar date)

The mix of text and image in picturebooks make them particularly effective in communicating stories about ourselves and others, and the importance for children of all abilities to see themselves included in the mirrors and windows of picturebooks is well established.

In the 2022 Waikato Picturebook Research Unit seminar we will hear from librarians, publishers, writers and children's literature researchers about disability and inclusion in picturebooks from Aotearoa and around the world.

Our keynote speaker is Associate Professor Patsie Frawley who heads the Masters of Disability and Inclusion studies at the University of Waikato.

Seminar registrations and Programme: [MailScanner has detected a possible fraud attempt from "waikato.us9.list-manage.com" claiming to be https://www.ivvy.com.au/event/S7LMX9/](https://www.ivvy.com.au/event/S7LMX9/)

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