

**NEWSLETTER FOR NEW ZEALAND CATHOLIC EARLY  
CHILDHOOD CENTRES, KINDERGARTENS, PLAYGROUPS  
AND INTERESTED PARTIES  
MARCH 2012**

**GREETINGS**

**Tēnā koutou katoa, malo e lelei, talofa lava, ni sa bula vinaka, talohani, kia orana, fakalofa lahi atu and blessings and warm greetings to you all.**

We hope your year has started off full of God's energy and joy!

**Catholic Education Convention, Wellington 8-10 August 2012**

Continue to watch the NZCEO website ([www.nzceo.org.nz](http://www.nzceo.org.nz)), and follow the link on the home page to the convention page. Registrations will open on 1 May, at which stage the total programme will be on the website.

**Early Childhood Folio**

In January I read the latest edition of NZCER's Early Childhood Folio. I really enjoyed the first article, 'Te tuangi (the clam): A metaphor for teaching and learning and the key competencies'. An article on what 'relating' looks like in a particular early childhood centre, and an article entitled 'Reshaping the learning disposition domains: Rethinking the language for infants and toddlers'. If you don't receive a regular alert about the Folios as they are published, I can only suggest you go to [www.nzcer.org.nz/journals](http://www.nzcer.org.nz/journals). They are a wonderfully stimulating resource.

**Enviroschools**

Governmental funding has just been restored to the enviroschools movement. Did you know that kindergartens and early childhood services are able to be enviroschools, and a number are already? Teaching children to reverence God's creation could be enhanced by joining the movement. [www.enviroschools.org.nz](http://www.enviroschools.org.nz) provides information, including regional contacts.

**Some More Apps, courtesy of Sr Sian Owen at the National Centre for Religious Studies**

Genesis Creation of the World Interactive Children's Bible Tale - \$2.59

Noah's Ark Interactive Children's Bible Tale - \$2.59

These two wonderful tales are told in a refreshing and captivating way. The students can tell the story, and record it or listen to it, or have it read to them.

The bright images are animated so the dogs bark and the waves crash.

Pressing and swiping the screen bring all manner of new and interesting visuals and sounds. Children will engage with these apps for ages.

Memory! Free

An old favourite with bells and whistles. Enables children to practice not only their skills at remembering but also use of the technology.

Toddlers Seek and Find Picture Book Free

Lovely graphics that can be used to stretch the imagination and encourage the creation of narrative.

**CECEAA National Conference 18-20 May 2012, Waikanae**

A reminder that the Christian Early Childhood Education Association of Aotearoa National Conference is coming up in May, at El Rancho, just an hour's drive north of Wellington. NZCEO is currently completing signing a Memorandum of Understanding with CECEAA. Information about the CECEAA Conference is attached.

**“I can’t see it to grab it”**

Attached is an article that you are likely to find interesting. By Jane Bone (in Early Education, 44, 2008, pp7-10), it gives a teacher's story of everyday spirituality,

**And some more attachments**

Two one-page articles from Iiti Rearea:

Building Kaupapa Maori into Early Childhood Education  
Researching Identity through Culture.

**With best wishes – enjoy the children who it is your gift to work with.**

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