

PLAY AS CHILDREN'S WORK-

*Shaping the brain, developing imagination,
invigorating the soul*

Guestspeaker:

**Philipp Reubke- Leader of the Pedagogical Section in
Dornach, Switzerland**

Rudolf Steiner/Waldorf Early Childhood Conference

Organised by Waekura, EC group of SEANZ

8-11 July 2024

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School

**\$300 Conference fee, incl morning and afternoon tea, lunch
and light dinners**

Early Childhood Conference 2024

PLAY AS CHILDREN'S WORK-

Shaping the brain, developing imagination, invigorating the soul

Monday 8 July, 8.30am- Thursday 11 July, 12.30pm

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School, 5 Helios Place (off Laingholm Drive), Titirangi, Auckland

Our guest speaker- Philipp Reubke



Philipp Reubke heads the Pedagogical Section at the Goetheanum. Philipp was born in Stuttgart in 1960 and is a former Waldorf student. He went on to study philosophy, German language and literature, and early childhood education. He worked in France as a Waldorf German language teacher from 1989, then as a Waldorf kindergarten teacher until 2017, and from 2010 to 2020 was a member of the coordination group of IASWECE, the International Association for Steiner/Waldorf Early Childhood Education. Since October 2020, Philipp has shared the leadership of the Pedagogical Section in Dornach, Switzerland with Constanza Kaliks.

We are very excited to bring him down-under and have him share with us everything there is to know about PLAY and MORNING CIRCLES. We will share with you his lecture titles as they come to hand.

The workshop choices

A. The healing art of painting- Susie Gay	F. Bringing morning circles to life- Philipp Reubke
B. Speech as the creative word- Michael Burton	G. Bringing balance through eurythmy- Eileen Boland
C. Supporting the 4 Lower senses as a process of incarnation- Emma Ratcliff	H. Spectrums and rainbows: What is neurodiversity and how do we approach it in Steiner education- Rochelle Hairs
D. Connections and interconnections: Te Ao Māori and Waldorf Pedagogy- Anjelica Oliver-Maxwell	I. Working together to understand gender issues- TracyLee Hooton
E. Creating standing dolls- Edith van der Meer	J. Caring for the very young child- Julia Sherriff

A. Colour and the human soul

Susie Gay

We will undertake exercises out of colour revealing different soul moods. There will also be some therapeutic colour interventions shown on how to work with the lower senses in relation to colour compositions in situations of loss, grief and anxiety. Working with colour stories in relationship to Fairy stories and Nature/seasonal Stories.

Susie Gay works out of her background as a Waldorf teacher, her Rudolf Steiner Painting School colour training and also as a trained anthroposophical art therapist. She is a member of the NZAC. She has worked over many years teaching children and adults and has worked with kindergarten children using Plant Colour painting therapy. She has had 28 years of practice working with colour.

B. Speech as the creative word

Michael Burton

SPEECH FOR TEACHERS

A great deal of what a teacher brings to children comes via his or her speech. You pay a lot of attention to what you say to the children but how much do you attend to HOW THE WORDS ARE SAID? One teacher was told by Rudolf Steiner that she would always have discipline problems until she attended to her own voice.

Out of 40 years' experience in speech and drama, Michael will bring exercises of the kind that was begun by Rudolf Steiner in his lectures with the original Stuttgart teachers. Some exercises are by Steiner (in English) and some Michael has gathered from other places or written himself. These exercises for breath, articulation, projection, resonance and so on will give teachers tools to help their real voice to come through and to be effective in the variety of situations that they must face. It all starts with the breath and being able to hold the central point of reference in the heart and goes from there to how you reach out to your children.

Some exercises that the teacher can bring directly to lower school children will also be included, but the majority of the work will be for the teacher's own voice, and this should be liberating and strengthening for every teacher.

C. Supporting the 4 Lower Senses as a process of incarnation

Emma Ratcliff

Emma Ratcliff will be presenting a workshop on what we refer to as "the four lower senses - Touch, life, movement and balance". These were given as part of the picture of the 12 senses by Rudolf Steiner. These senses provide a rich array of input for the development of the child in the first seven years, while they incarnate and take hold of their body as a vehicle for their will activity in the world. The healthy development and integration of these senses form the foundation for learning, social interactions and being in the world.

Emma is an occupational therapist who has worked with children with developmental, sensory and movement challenges for over 20 years. Emma brings the picture of the 12 senses and bridges this with our understanding of neurodevelopment, to place the work of Rudolf Steiner in the present day in a living and practical way. Emma will bring understanding of child development, movement and learning, and practical ideas to support health development of the senses.

D. Connections and interconnections: Te Ao Māori and Waldorf Pedagogy

Anjelica Oliver-Maxwell

Ako - Teaching and learning together

In this workshop we will explore how te ao Māori and Steiner/Waldorf pedagogy are complimentary and share waiata and stories from across Aotearoa. Please come prepared to contribute a waiata and Aotearoa specific story from your early childhood setting.

Anjelica Oliver-Maxwell is a kaiako at the Christchurch Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten. She is eager to reflect on what it means to be a Steiner/Waldorf early childhood kaiako in Aotearoa and how wisdom from te ao Māori can inform our work with tamariki and whānau.

E. Creating standing dolls

Edith van der Meer

We will endeavour to make a standing doll that can be used for children's play in the kindergarten or day-care centre or for puppet stories. Some sewing skills would be an advantage, but not strictly necessary. Please bring your sewing kit to the conference.

Edith van der Meer has been a Waldorf handwork and kindergarten teacher for 25 years. Apart from organising and teaching at the NZSTED-EC course in Titirangi, she also takes care of all the craft courses on this course and at the one in Indonesia. She is an avid dollmaker and loves knitting.

F. Bringing morning circles to life

Philipp Reubke

Exploring morning circles-why, what and how.

G. Bringing balance through eurythmy

Eileen Boland

Eileen Boland works as a eurythmy therapist in Auckland and is also one of the tutors on the part-time Eurythmy Aotearoa professional eurythmy training in New Zealand. She has worked with pedagogical kindergarten eurythmy for the past 14 years. This work includes incorporating songs written in the "Mood of the Fifth" in the kindergarten lessons. She studied eurythmy at The London School of Eurythmy and has worked as a eurythmist in Ireland, Germany and New Zealand. Eileen also studied at the INPP (England) in 2005, learning about primitive and postural reflexes in children.

There will be three eurythmy sessions during the conference. I would like to go over some of the elements of eurythmy which are included in a kindergarten eurythmy lesson and practise these elements during the three afternoons, so that participants may begin to understand and experience why eurythmy was so strongly recommended by Rudolf Steiner for young children. We will also go through a kindergarten eurythmy lesson together, particularly for those who do not have a eurythmist in their kindergarten, but also for any who are interested.

I would like to offer that we practise one or two little poems with eurythmy gestures, which you can do with your children. If anyone who would like to join these sessions has a short poem which they would like to use, please contact me before the end of June and I will include it if possible. I anticipate being able to work with two or possibly three poems.

Eileen Boland contact: eb640981@hotmail.com

H. Spectrums and rainbows: What is neurodiversity and how do we approach it in Steiner education

Rochelle Hairs

In this workshop we will look at: (Day 1) What it actually means to be neurodiverse, the advantages of early identification and why we need to start thinking about this in the early childhood years (birth to 7). We also discuss the importance of Developmental Movement Play. Comfy clothes that you can wear down on the floor are recommended for Day 1.

We will then explore how as Educators and Carers we can help the neurodiverse or sensory sensitive child through exploring the 8 senses of (Day 2) Touch, Self-Movement (proprioception), Balance (vestibular) and Life (including interoception) and (Day 3) vision, smell, taste (incl. food aversions) and hearing. Lots of case studies will be given. Please bring examples of children you know from your setting to brainstorm ways to help.

Rochelle is a Child and Family Health Nurse, Parent Educator and Developmental Movement Play Specialist. She ran a Steiner Playgroup for 9 years in NSW before moving to New Zealand where she now works in private practice supporting families with children under 6 with challenging behaviour and sensory sensitivities. She draws her knowledge from both allopathic and anthroposophical approaches as well as her own life experiences, particularly of being a mother with her own challenging child.

Rochelle is extremely passionate about valuing early childhood for what it is – the most important time of a human's life as well as valuing Parenthood for what it is – the most important job in the world.

MA (Nursing), Grad Cert (Child & Family Health), BA (Psychology & Education) + currently studying Grad Dip in Extra Lesson

I. Working Together to Understand Gender

TraceyLee Hooton

Join us for an interactive workshop facilitated by Traceylee, a dedicated advocate for children's holistic development and Steiner Waldorf education. With over a decade of experience as a founding parent and co-owner of Four Seasons Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten, as well as experience as a Simplicity Parenting Family Life Coach and ongoing studies in psychology, Traceylee brings a unique perspective to the discussion of contemporary issues in early childhood education.

In this workshop, Traceylee will guide participants in exploring the complex terrain of gender and identity in the context of Steiner Waldorf kindergarten settings. Drawing on her understanding of child development and her commitment to nurturing the whole child,

Traceylee will create a supportive space for reflection, dialogue, and practical exploration. Together, we will delve into questions such as: What do children need from us regarding gender and identity? How can we best support their journey of self-discovery within a Steiner Waldorf framework?

J. Caring for the very young child **Julia Sherriff**

This is a chance for those working with birth to three-year-olds to explore and share our questions and observations as a first step in developing greater understanding of the needs of this age group.

We will be focusing on the importance of the senses in the very early years. We will look at how we nurture the very young child through our interactions, the environment we create and experiences we offer. As part of this we will also look at self-care of teachers and caregivers.

Julia Sherriff has been a Steiner Kindergarten Teacher for over 30 years. More recently her work has been providing support to first-time mothers from pregnancy into the first year of motherhood. This, together with caring for her mokopuna, has deepened her passion to learn more and support this precious time in children's lives.

[Scroll further down, please](#)

Play as Children's work- shaping the brain, developing imagination, invigorating the soul

8-11 July 2024 at Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School

	Monday 8 July	Tuesday 9 July	Wednesday 10 July	Thursday 11 July
8.30am	Singing, Housekeeping-Verse	Singing, Housekeeping- Verse	Singing, Housekeeping- Verse	Singing, Housekeeping- Verse
9.00am	Talk: Anthropological foundations for a surprising way of learning Philipp Reubke	Talk: What qualities and skills are needed to support play? Philipp Reubke	Talk: What can we learn from the small child for self- education Philipp Reubke	Talk: An important contribution for spiritual ecology Philipp Reubke
10.15am	Morning tea	Morning tea	Morning tea	Rounding off
11.00am	Enlivening the lecture- Discussion groups	Enlivening the lecture- Discussion groups	Enlivening the lecture- Discussion groups	Morning Tea and Farewell
12.00pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
2.00pm	Hot Topics- Picture of Early Childhood world-wide in Waldorf Education. Philipp	Hot Topics- Evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hermmes project • Enrolments • High/exceptional needs children 	Hot Topics Annual Plan	
3.00pm	Afternoon tea	Afternoon tea	Afternoon tea	
3.30pm	Workshops	Workshops	Workshops	← See above
5.00pm	Finish	Finish	Finish	
6.00pm	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
7.00pm	Free night	Introduction to IASWECE, SEANZ and Waekura. Graduation of Diploma students and celebration	Contributions from around the country- Danica	
8.30pm		Finish	Finish	Finish

Dear Colleagues,

I have booked the Huia Lodge (The Old Schoolhouse) for the 7th-11th July as accommodation for attending the conference held in Titirangi in July. I am looking for people who would want to join us in staying there. There are 18 beds, between 6 rooms and can sleep up to 30 people. I know for many of us securing accommodation is one of the challenges when planning to attend a conference, specially if we are not going with a group. I hope this could be a solution.

<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/parks-recreation/stay-at-park/Pages/accommodation-details.aspx?itemID=27>

The Lodge is organised as six bunk rooms: The website says "two double bunk beds and one single bed in each." So 3 beds, sleeping up to 5 people per room, 30 people total. More practical for us probably is 3 people per room. You would need to supply bed linen, blankets, duvets, sleeping bags, pillows, towels, tea towels, food, mosquito repellent and personal items. The rooms do appear to each have their own heat pump so they can be nice and cosy.

The cost of the whole Lodge is \$385 per night. Which if divided by room would work out at \$64.17 per night per room. If you wanted a room to yourself, you could do that or you could share with a couple of friends and divide the cost. I am hopeful we could end up with a decent number of people sharing and make it really affordable. I am happy to provide an invoice for those who need one for accommodation reimbursements if your kindergartens/centres are helping with expenses.

Most meals are included in the conference but the kitchen is well equipped for preparing breakfast and evening snacks. There are shared kitchen facilities and a big living room too. There is a toilet and shower block and reviews suggest the showers are nice and the place has been renovated in the last few years. All the reviews I saw from the last 3 years gave it a 5/5.

It is located in the coastal bush at Huia, 16km from Titirangi and under 20 mins drive from the school. So we would need to make sure that between us we had enough vehicles to get everyone there and back each day. I have had confirmed interest from at least 1 person who said they will have a vehicle and at least 2 that I know will definitely not have a vehicle as we are flying up.

I have booked from the 7th-11th as the first day of the conference has a morning start and if you are coming from well out of town like me you may need to arrive on the Sunday.

If you are interested in this option please let me know at alida@harris.net.nz.

It would be good to know:

- If you would want your own room, to book a room with friends as a small group or to share with someone else looking to split a room.

- If you will have a vehicle with you or not, and if you do how many potential seats could you offer for ride sharing,
- Whether or not you would want to be there for the full 4 nights (7th-11th) or just 8-11th.
- Any other considerations like if you are not 100% sure if you are attending or not

Looking forward to hearing from you. I will collect interest now but will set a deadline for committing. Say, end of May so we can confirm how we are splitting the rooms/cost.

Ngā mihi,

Alida Harris,

alida@harris.net.nz

Dunedin

After reading all this exciting information you may now want to fill in the registration form below and send it to Louise Cole: louisecole@xtra.co.nz

PLAY AS CHILDREN'S WORK-

Shaping the brain, developing imagination, invigorating the soul

Monday 8 July, 8.30am- Thursday 11 July, 12.30pm

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School, 5 Helios Place (off Laingholm Drive), Titirangi, Auckland

REGISTRATION FORM

Please print/circle clearly and email back to louisecole@xtra.co.nz : Mrs /Ms /Mr /Dr (please circle)

First Name:----- Last Name: -----

Telephone: ----- Mobile: -----

E-mail: -----

School/Institution where I work: ----- Job title:-----

WORKSHOPS: Please give us **three** choices. **Please choose from:** (We need more than 5 participants to run the w/s)

A. The healing art of painting- Susie Gay	F. Bringing morning circles to life- Philipp Reubke
B. Speech as the creative word- Michael Burton	G. Bringing balance through eurythmy- Eileen Boland
C. Supporting the 4 Lower senses as a process of incarnation- Emma Ratcliff	H. Spectrums and rainbows: What is neurodiversity and how do we approach it in Steiner education- Rochelle Hairs
D. Connections and interconnections: Te Ao Māori and Waldorf Pedagogy- Anjelica Oliver-Maxwell	I. Working together to understand gender issues- TracyLee Hooton
E. Creating standing dolls- Edith van der Meer	J. Caring for the very young child- Julia Sherriff

Workshop choices (A-I) <u>for the duration of the whole conference</u>	1 st choice No:	2 nd choice No:	3 rd choice No:

Your dietary requirements: **Gluten-free / Dairy free / Other:**(we cannot cater for very specific requirements)

COSTS: NZ \$300. This includes light dinner, lunch, morning teas and afternoon teas and registration and administration costs. Registration is on first-come, first-served basis and the maximum number of participants is 120. So don't leave it to the last minute. We will likely have to disappoint you!!

PAYMENT: Internet banking- direct debit into our Westpac bank 03-0698-0181295-00, Steiner/Waldorf Early Childhood Education Trust. **Please state your name in reference details.** Please confirm your payment by email to louisecole@xtra.co.nz.

CONFIRMATION: Your registration will be confirmed (by email) after your payment has been received. Registration closes on 1 July 2024; **late registrations will not be accepted.** You will find out about your workshop at the conference.

ACCOMMODATION: Please look on AirBnB, Bookabach, Bachcare and Holiday Homes and Baches and Booking.com for motels and hotels in the Titirangi/Green Bay/Glen Eden/New Lynn area. Try and share with others. There are no billeting options available.

CHILDREN: We **CANNOT** accommodate children at the conference.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations must be received in writing no later than 15 June 2024. Payment will be refunded (after the conference) less \$50 for administration costs incurred. If a cancellation is received **after** 15 June no refund will be given. However, you may transfer your registration/payment to another person who is not yet registered.

Please notify louisecole@xtra.co.nz