

FROM THE Editor



Three days of listening to inspirational key notes, informative workshop presenters, plus helping to organise prize competitions and run our ECC booth with my fellow ECC colleagues offers up a strange quandary – exhaustion and exhilaration.

But what a great three days it was! You can read about some of the highlights of this year's conference in this issue. If you didn't make it to the conference this year, seriously consider attending next year – you won't regret it.

If you did attend the ECC Conference I hope you've recovered and now able to share what you've learnt over those three days with your colleagues and maybe even started making some changes to aspects of your programme.

It's never easy implementing change, even minute change, but I encourage you all to share your vision with your colleagues, with your families and with your children, and inspire them all to jump on board and add their thoughts and ideas.

If you've been inspired to make some changes from what you've heard at this year's ECC Conference send me an email, and maybe we can share your initiative in an article or maybe you will want to enter in next year's ECC Telecom Innovation and Improvement Award!

To find out more about this award, you can read in this issue about the winner, the highly commended entry and the three finalists. Discover why the winning entry stood out above the other finalists and won the award.

Interestingly, three of the finalists had a

focus on ICT, with two centres developing their own software, and another using Facebook. All three were hoping to streamline and improve their programme planning process, as well as allow for deeper understanding and sharing with the parents/whānau at their centres.

One of the sub-themes of this year's ECC Conference was Virtual Spaces: Digital Technologies and Communications in Early Childhood Education, and I know many of you walked away from our key note speaker Brian Peurling and our ICT workshops blown away from the potential that ICT can add to your centre's programme and your children's learning.

In our upcoming Spring issue we hope to share with you some articles on social media and using ICT in ECE. If your centre uses social media, such as Facebook or blogging to reach your families, and you'd like to share your experience let me know. Also if your centre uses ICT with your children we'd also love to hear from you. This could be how children use cameras, videos or digital microscopes in your centre, or how your centre uses various apps or software such as Comic Life, Photo Story or the MoMa Art Lab app. What has your centre discovered and loved?

I'd also love to hear from an ECE centre that has decided not to use ICT with their children, why is this and what can we learn from your example of being ICT free.

Also another upcoming theme is leadership. What makes a great leader? How do you lead your centre through change? If your centre has made successful changes to your programme, share your story with other educators and leaders in ECE. The ECE sector has amazing stories of offering quality ECE, let's share the good news and why children should attend early childhood centres.

If you or your centre has a story to share email me at info@ecc.org.nz

Trudi Sutcliffe

Editor

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