



Editorial

PAT LYNCH

Bringing Out the Best in Us All

The Christchurch earthquake which caused so much suffering and devastation has undoubtedly brought out the best in New Zealanders.

The deaths, injuries and destruction that have occurred are leaving long lasting scars on the lives of many people. On top of this are the emotional and psychological issues that are affecting many others as they struggle to adjust to unemployment and other pressures visited upon them.

To the credit of our Principals, Boards of Trustees and staff of the nation's schools, many students who left the City after the earthquake for a variety of reasons have been welcomed into other integrated schools in various regions of the country. This gesture of support has been very welcome.

That so many countries sent emergency rescue personnel to aid the immediate rescue and recovery issues following the earthquake is a wonderful testament to the international standing New Zealand has in the community of nations.

Dramatic and speedy recovery work has lifted the spirits of Cantabrians. This is a testament to the get up and go attitude of Cantabrians and of all New Zealanders.

The tragic Japanese earthquake has grimly revealed another further horrific dimension of a very powerful earthquake. Together these two events cause people to reflect on their lives and their place in the world. While disaster and suffering are part of the mystery of life, educators are able to use the events to offer hope to students and their families, who are often bewildered and anxious as a result of what has happened.

Our schools' special character is a scaffolding which enables us to help sustain students to cope with what seems like the earth in turmoil. Offering hope and encouragement are healing balm.

We wish everybody well as they deal with the aftermath of the Christchurch earthquake and the even more traumatic Japanese earthquake. Thank you for the generosity you have displayed.

Featured in this issue:

- 1 Christchurch Earthquake
- 2 Maximum roll and enrolment issues following the earthquake
- 3 The need for Correct English – Worth Noting by Teachers and Students

Greetings

Tēna koutou, Ngā mihi nui kia koutou.

Despite all the external challenges of recent months, may you remain hopeful and encouraged!

News from the Education Review Office

ERO has recently sent schools an email indicating that a revised Framework for School Reviews will shortly be on the ERO website, along with the Evaluation Indicators for School Reviews. Comments on the new, shorter report format will be sought later in the year. Forthcoming reviews are now listed on the ERO website. A new publication, 'Evaluation at a Glance: What ERO Knows about Effective Schools', is also on the website, www.ero.govt.nz.

Christchurch Earthquake

Congratulations are extended to all Cantabrians for the extraordinary way in which they have so quickly reorganised themselves to enable their schools to open within three to four weeks of the earthquake. It is quite extraordinary to witness the resilience they have demonstrated in helping one another in order to achieve some sort of normalisation in their disrupted lives.

Likewise, the outpouring of sympathy, empathy and practical support from other parts of the country has been nothing short of extraordinary.

Many of our schools have been more than generous in their fundraising to aid our Christchurch students and colleagues. Thank you.

Maximum roll and enrolment issues following the earthquake

Given the Declaration of a National Emergency, normal enrolment processes in Integrated schools were allowed to be put aside within a few constraints. Once the situation involving students who have temporarily transferred to schools outside of Christchurch has settled down, the Ministry of Education will survey each integrated school regarding its enrolments. If any school is in breach of its Integration Agreement, work will occur with the school's Proprietor to regularise the situation through a temporary maximum roll increase. Information will be sent to each Proprietor and each school on this issue.

Broadband is Booming

Statistics NZ reports that more than a million NZ homes now connect to the internet through broadband, double the number three years ago. This includes 1 in 2 rural homes.

"Everyday is a gift."

Seneca



Congratulations to:

Otago, Southland Regions:

Canterbury, South Canterbury and West Coast Regions:

St Bede's College, Christchurch: Debater Tim Robinson has been chosen for the 2011 New Zealand Development team by the NZ Schools' Debating Council.

Villa Maria College, Christchurch: Monica Sharpe won a short story competition and had her story published in Crème magazine.

Kapiti Coast, Horowhenua, Wairarapa, Wellington, Nelson, Buller and Marlborough Regions:

Hutt International Boys' School, Silverstream: Prashan Casinader has been selected as a member of the Children's Commissioner's Young People's Reference Group. Oliver Cutler auditioned and received a role in NZ TV series 'The Investigator'.

Taranaki, Wanganui, Manawatu, Rangitikei and Hawkes Bay Regions:

Taikura Rudolf Steiner School, Hastings: Shahn Taylor won the engineering category when he presented his wind power project in Taipei, at the 2011 International Science Fair.

St Joseph's Māori Girls' College, Taradale: Alana Broughton came 1st in the National Aquarium Te Reo Poetry Competition.

Lindisfarne College, Hastings: Michael Hackney gained 6 subject scholarships, to add to the 3 he gained in 2009, making a total of 9 subject scholarships.

Northland and Auckland Regions:

Carmel College, Milford: Cathryn Obnail gained 2nd place in the national finals of the NZ Vegemite Spelling Bee.

Elim College, Botany: Cheree Kinnear won the national ASB Gazillionaire Competition for her Disaster Alert System.

St Joseph's School, Pukekohe: Edwin Van Helsdingen came 3rd in NZ in the 8-10 years category of the 2011 World Maths Day competition.

Subject Scholarship Awards

Congratulations to the many students in integrated schools who gained NZQA scholarship awards.

Schools and the Right to Discipline – New Edition

The above publication has just been updated and republished. It is available from the Wellington Community Law Centre, PO Box 24 005, Wellington. The cost is \$10.

New Zealand Retains Foreign Students' Skills

Department of Labour research confirms that around 31% of fee paying international students find work in NZ after their studies, and around 20% gain permanent residence. Around 68% of former international students are in fulltime employment 18 months after gaining permanent residence, with 31% in a professional occupation and 62% in a skilled job.

The Need for Correct English – Worth Noting by Teachers and Students

There are significant disadvantages for those who use incorrect spelling and grammar. British newspaper The Independent reports the head of an online graduate recruitment agency stating that the agency rejects one third of all job applications from graduates with good degrees from good universities, because errors in English in their CVs and covering letters show ignorance, carelessness and a bad attitude.

Did You Know?

40% of all students in tertiary education in NZ fail to complete their course or qualification.

More than 1 million people in NZ have low functional literacy and numeracy.



"Did you ever have one of those days when you wished somebody would steal your identity?"



KONICA MINOLTA



Kia kaha, kia māia, kia ū!

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