



### Editorial

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Enterprises, educational institutions and nations that demonstrate a hunger and energy for achievement are at the leading edge of change and development in today's world. South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan are countries in this category

Big Blue (IBM) is a good example of an enterprise that nearly lost its way when it did not see the potential of the personal computer (PC) the company had invented and its ability to change the way people do things. Today the company is back to its leadership position, simply because it re-invented itself to meet the evolving needs of enterprise.

It is easy to sink into a mode of comfort which does not recognise the ever-changing realities of the world around us. This is dangerous! Every institution or leader needs to be hungry for new information, ideas and innovations.

No ethnic group has a monopoly on the hunger for achievement. Achievers simply work hard in a smart way. They build a structure that is committed to review and renewal on a constant basis. They establish a culture where new ideas are welcome and are actively sought out. They interact with ideas and people from diverse settings and backgrounds. Organisations that are open to diversity and see diversity as a strength, are the ones least likely to sink into a culture of cruising along, which over time sows the seed of ultimate decline.

Business consultants today talk about the realities of VUCA, an acronym describing the impact of the twin influences of globalisation and technology: volatility, unpredictability, complexity and ambiguity. These words frighten many individuals, though they describe the realities of our world, even in New Zealand.

Our schools, no matter how well they are achieving, will sink beneath the waves of the volatility, if leaders in schools and classrooms do not constantly burnish their leadership styles and respond in a coherent, strategic way to today's realities.

Reviewing, updating and adapting are the keys to progress. These processes will ensure we are faithful to the spiritual and human values at the heart of special character schools.

### Featured in this issue:

- 1 Cross Sector Forum to Focus on Quality and Achievement for All Students
- 2 Websites worth Checking
- 3 Recent Reports from ERO

#### Greetings

**Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou.**

**We wish you well not that the shortest day has heralded the depths of winter. Roll on summer!**

#### New Zealand Catholic Education Convention 8-10 August 2012

Early bird registration has closed, but there is still time to register to attend this triennial convention, which will be held in Wellington. Go to [www.nzceo.org.nz](http://www.nzceo.org.nz) and follow the link to the convention website.

#### Cross Sector Forum to Focus on Quality and Achievement for All Students

Education Minister Hekia Parata has established a cross sector forum made up of representatives from a number of education sector organisations, academics, unions and interested parties to work with the Government on raising student achievement across the system. The Government continues to have a key goal of ensuring that all students reach their educational potential, with a particular focus on groups that are currently underachieving. The group will meet monthly at least until the end of the year. Rowena Phair has been appointed to the Ministry of Education as Deputy Secretary with responsibility for Student Achievement. This is a new role in the Ministry.

#### Network for Learning a Step Closer

The Ministry of Education is establishing a Crown-owned company to run the Network for Learning. It has announced board members for this company, and has put out an RFP invitation to suppliers to deliver a range of services needed for the network. Seminars are being held throughout the country from July onwards, to update school leaders and teachers.

#### Websites worth Checking

The Minister of Education has recently launched two new websites to assist schools to create safe and secure learning environments that deter bullying. They are Wellbeing@School ([www.wellbeingatschool.org.nz](http://www.wellbeingatschool.org.nz)) and Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) Online ([www.pb4l.tki.org.nz](http://www.pb4l.tki.org.nz)). The wellbeing website provides tools for surveys and self review. PB4L Online provides practical ideas and tips for responding to challenging behaviour. Both websites are supported by the Positive Behaviour for Learning Action Plan.

#### Microsoft Office 365 Offer

Microsoft's Office 365 cloud email and its collaboration suite are likely to become available free to New Zealand schools as part of an agreement being made with the giant software company. More details are awaited.



**Congratulations to:****Otago, Southland Regions:**

**St Brigid's School, Dunedin:** Devon Gamble won the Interschools Chess Championship and qualified for the National Tournament in Auckland.

**St Peter's College, Gore:** Luke Instone was awarded the National overall winner for Ayreshire Youth Achiever Award in the 13 – 17 years section.

**John McGlashan College, Dunedin:** Josh Mackay was awarded the highest mark for New Zealand in his Grade 3 Trinity Guildhall Speech Exam. Assistant principal Iain Gilchrist was featured in the 5 June Education Gazette, in an article on a TKI video showing him leading his team through curriculum change in NCEA English.

**Canterbury, South Canterbury and West Coast Regions:**

**St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch:** Sam Mackwell, Year 13, who last year invented the Lion Advance Emergency Power Generator, is to address a prestigious conference, Engineering Change, in Auckland. Craig Smith has been selected to join the Sir Peter Blake Trust inaugural Young Blake Expedition to the Kermadecs in August this year. Tom Barker will attend the 2012 Enterprise in Action Young Enterprise competition.

**St Joseph's School, Pleasant Point:** Hamish Scannell, Emily O'Reilly and Elizabeth Hampton were 2nd in the National Agrikids competition.

**Villa Maria College, Christchurch:** Cellist Catherine Kwak gained a place in the New Zealand National Youth Orchestra.

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

**St Oran's College and Hutt International Boys School:** The combined Glee group provided a first class performance for the dinner guests at the National Integrated Schools Association Conference.

**Garin College, Nelson:** The college was showcased in the 21 May edition of the Education Gazette, in an article on school music.

**St Patrick's College, Kilbirnie:** Braedyn Humphries has received a 2012 New Zealander Local Hero Award for his work with a group of young adults with special needs, helping them to learn and perform Hip-Hop dance.

**Holy Family School, Porirua East:** The Prime Minister, Hon Tariana Turia and Hon Hekia Parata visited the school to talk about the Government's strategy for combatting rheumatic fever.

**St Joseph's School, Upper Hutt:** In a recent innovation children are given service badges at weekend Masses to acknowledge their place in the parish community. This is a joint school-parish initiative.

**St Joseph's School, Levin:** The school facilitated 22 parents to complete a Computers in Home course.

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

**St John's College, Hastings and Sacred Heart College, Napier** came first equal in the O'Shea Shield.

**St Joseph's Māori Girls' College, Greenmeadows:** Kate Puanaki was selected by the Royal Society of NZ to participate in the Science Forum at Otago University.

**Hato Paora College, Feilding:** 35 students have gone to Los Angeles for a cultural and faith exchange. The boys will develop their understanding of their place in the global community, and will meet another indigenous community, from the Achachemen (Indian) Nation.

**Thames Valley, Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Tairāwhiti Regions:**

**John Paul College, Rotorua:** Zac Swift has been selected for the Shakespeare Globe National Shakespeare Schools production. The college team also won the prestigious Outstanding Scenography Award, Best use of Stage Space Award and the ultimate award the Assessors' Special Award for Creativity.

**Aquinas College, Tauranga:** Alice McFall has taken top honours at a business challenge recently held in Auckland and has been selected to represent New Zealand at the FedEx/JA International Trade Challenge in Hong Kong.

**Northland and Auckland Regions:**

**St Mary's College, Ponsonby:** Lucy Davy's entry in the National Irish Essay Competition, "One Potato, Two Potatoes, Three Potatoes... None," won a Special Award Merit, placing her in the top ten writers in New Zealand.

**Marist College, Mt Albert:** Mirabai Pease, Year 10, has been selected to play the role of Lisa in a new television drama called Harry. Isabella Wilson and Ingrid Tuapope have gained a place at the prestigious Chinese Language Summer Camp in Shanghai. Ella Agnew and Aimee Hunt are performing in the National Youth Theatre Company's production of Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. Marist Stella Choir are one of four choirs nationwide invited to perform at the Big Sing Finale in Wellington in August as a Guest Choir.

**Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School, Epsom:** Zoe Mills and Charlotte McLauchlan are two of the top 16 entries in the Barfoot & Thompson Young Authors challenge.

**St Joseph's School, Otahuhu:** The school's Reading Together programme featured in the Ministry of Education's Pasifika Education Research Priorities publication.

**Rosmini College, Takapuna:** In the international World Language Championship Ray Hu finished 2nd in French and 4th overall. Kuba Rozmus and Daniel Meech won Elite awards for reaching 10,000 points.

**Elim School, Botany:** Students are currently in Israel, on the school's 6th annual trip to visit the origins of Christianity.

*"Be curious always! For knowledge will not acquire you; you must acquire it."*

Sudie Back

## School Property Review under Way

A general review of school property led by Beca is about to get under way to consider how 21st century learning spaces can be provided in the right locations at the most efficient whole of life cost. The review will not make recommendations about properties at individual schools.

## Recent Reports from ERO

During Term 2 ERO has published a number of very important evaluation reports.

- Improving Education Outcomes for Pacific Learners provides recommendations and best practice for lifting student achievement. This is a “must read.”
- Working with the National Standards: Good Practice reports on examples of best practice gathered during 2011 reviews.
- Working with the National Standards to Promote Students’ Progress and Achievement is the fourth update on schools’ implementation of the National Standards. The report notes that in Terms 1-3 2011, of the 439 schools reviewed 22% were working well with all the requirements of the National Standards, 59% were developing systems and processes to work with all the requirements, and 19% were not working with all the requirements. The report provides a range of detailed information about various aspects of implementation of the Standards.
- Science in the New Zealand Curriculum Years 5 to 8 has recommendations to schools about science teaching. It follows on the Science in Years 5 to 8: Capable and Confident Teaching, which provided best practice examples.
- Readiness to Implement Te Marautanga o Aotearoa and Ngā Whanaketanga Rumake Māori is the first in a series of national reports that will be published. Examples of good practice are included
- A digest of the Pacific Learners report is being mailed to all schools soon. A leaflet on transitions for children from early childhood services into schools will be mailed shortly.

ERO reports can be accessed at [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz).

## Police and Education Partnership Advice on School Balls

The Police and Education Partnership has recently provided advice to principals on school balls and pre and after ball functions. The advice summarises best practice, and includes an appendix listing penalties under the Sale of Liquor Act. This will be helpful in ensuring that school balls are not marred by unfortunate occurrences. If you have not received a copy and would like one, contact NZCEO or NZSTA.

## ReadyNet Reminder

Principals and Boards of Trustees are reminded of the value of ReadyNet as part of emergency preparedness. See [www.readynet.co.nz](http://www.readynet.co.nz) for details.

***“There are risks and costs to action.  
But they are far less than the long range  
risks of comfortable inaction.”***

John F. Kennedy, 35th President of the USA.

## Interesting Websites

[www.gratefulness.org](http://www.gratefulness.org) is a delightful site with a vast range of interesting resources including a thought for the day. [www.gratefulness.org/candles](http://www.gratefulness.org/candles) provides information on an electronic “light a candle and say a prayer online” site, and [www.gratefulness.org/brotherdavid/bio.htm](http://www.gratefulness.org/brotherdavid/bio.htm) provides information about Br Steindl-Rast, the founder of the site. [www.prayers4gatherings.com](http://www.prayers4gatherings.com) has a very useful range of prayers available for a very low subscription. An app called GR8 prayers is also available.



## Congratulations

Anne Kenneally, St Mary’s School, Mosgiel, and Mike Bonisch, principal of Christ the King School, Burnside, Christchurch, were featured in the NZ Education Gazette, 5 June 2012, in an article describing what they learned as a result of their TeachNZ Study Awards.

## Theology in Year 13 at University of Otago

The Department of Theology and Religion at the University of Otago offers secondary students discretionary entry to study a theology paper by distance during Year 13. In 2013 and 2014 this paper will be “The History of Christianity.” The course is academically challenging, wonderfully presented and well regarded by students. For more information email [university@otago.ac.nz](mailto:university@otago.ac.nz).

## A New Best Selling Book

Lillibutt’s Big Adventure, by Maris O’Rourke with illustrations by Claudia Pond Eyley, tells the story of Lillibutt the pig, who becomes a pilgrim on the Camino de Santiago! See the flyer in this posting, see [www.davidling.co.nz](http://www.davidling.co.nz) (go to the children’s books section) or go to any bookseller.

## Supporting Future-Oriented Learning and Teaching

This report by senior NZCER researchers has recently been published by the Ministry of Education. It investigates changes in schooling that will need to be made for the 21st century, and discusses emerging principles.

Students will need to be educated to appreciate, be at ease with, and work with those of different cultures. Diversity, connectedness and coherence will be central to thinking about education. The report is available at [www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications).

### An Excellent Joint Venture

Elim College, MIT, Ormiston College and Sancta Maria College (all Auckland) are congratulated on a joint initiative, an NCEA Level 2 Trades Course, incorporating plumbing, building and electrical unit standards based at Ormiston College.

### ANZELA Conference 3-5 October, Rotorua

The Australia and NZ Education Law Conference will take place in Rotorua, 3-5 October. The theme is legal and social challenges in education. For information, go to [www.anzela.edu.au](http://www.anzela.edu.au).

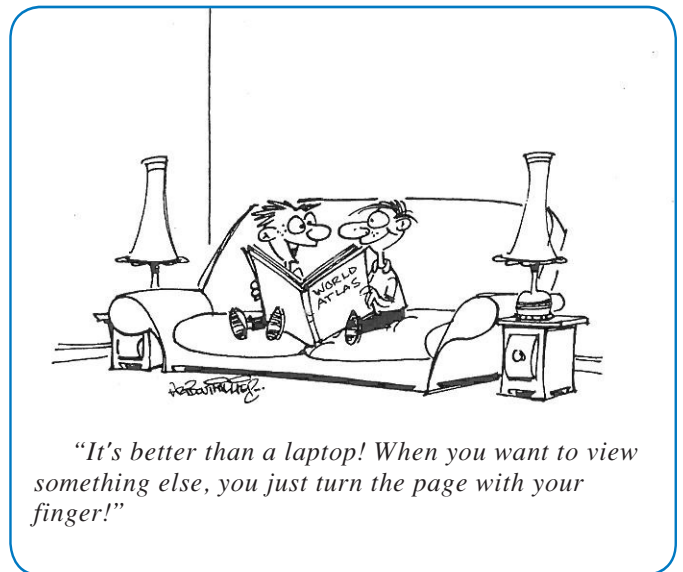
### Public Service Reform May Benefit Children

Government has recently announced plans for reforms in the Ministries of Health, Welfare and Education, which would require them to collaborate to improve the lives of vulnerable children. The school sector will welcome any measures that will improve the help available to families and students in crisis, who often have a range of issues including health, education, welfare and criminal offending.



### Annual Integrated Schools' Hostel Seminar

The 2012 annual integrated schools' hostel seminar, due to take place in October in Wellington, has been cancelled owing to the pressure of work this year in the NZCEO office. The seminar will be held again in 2013.



### Government Tackling Mental Health in Schools

The Government is applauded for its youth mental health package, which will put more nurses and youth workers into lower decile secondary schools. A new programme, Check and Connect, will target young people who are at risk of disengaging from school. Positive Behaviour for Learning is being expanded, and FRIENDS for Life, a programme to build students' self esteem and resilience, will be piloted in ten secondary schools. Other initiatives are also under way.

### Remote and Provincial Schools Get Faster Broadband

In the latest round of connections, 193 provincial schools (including a significant number of integrated schools) are getting faster broadband and 57 remote schools will get connections of 10 Mbps or more using point to point wireless technology.



### Kia kaha, kia māia, kia ū!

**Pat Lynch**, C.E.O.  
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