



Editorial

PAT LYNCH

Who would have thought that 2011 would be such a rocky year for the world?

The Arab world's awakening; the continued aftershocks of the Great Recession; civil disorder in some European countries and fractured politics in various democracies are all reminders that humanity is on a journey as it seeks better prospects for itself.

In the post World War II era oppressed peoples in almost every continent have sought to take charge of their own destinies and have succeeded. Often violence has accompanied this quest, yet the desire for freedom is the common denominator.

The United Nations has often provided the inspiration and support to enable oppressed people to become free and develop a democracy of one kind or another. Government by the people, for the people sounds trite nowadays, yet it is an enduring truth which people are prepared to die for, as we have been seeing this year.

It is opportune to examine our attitudes to see if we are in fact internationalists at heart, giving help to those struggling to improve their lot. This is a sacred obligation. Educators have a pivotal role in raising the sights of our students so they come to recognise we now live in a borderless world.

The founding statement of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) said: "It is in the minds of men (sic) that wars begin, so it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed." This message is as relevant today as it was in 1946.

So, as the year moves along on its rocky journey, it behoves each of us to be grateful for the liberty we experience and recognise that it is a delicate flower which must be nourished for it to flourish.

"The essence of genius is knowing what to overlook."

William James

Featured in this issue:

- 1 New Secretary for Education Appointed
- 2 Seismic Standards for Schools
- 3 Faith-based Schools to be Featured

Greetings

Nau mai, haere mai ki te whānau ākonga o Aotearoa.

We wish you well as the nation enjoys hosting the Rugby World Cup.

Christchurch Schools Continue to Be in our Thoughts

We send our continuing support and good will to the families, students, staff, boards of trustees, and proprietors of our integrated schools in the Christchurch area.

New Secretary for Education Appointed

Lesley Longstone, Director General of Infrastructure and Funding at the English Department for Education, has been appointed as New Zealand's new Secretary for Education, and will take up the position in November. Congratulations have been extended to her, on behalf of integrated schools.

Advice on Synthetic Cannabis in Schools

School principals and Boards of Trustees have recently received advice from the police/education partnership on creating policy and actions in relation to synthetic cannabis in schools. The NZ School Trustees Helpdesk can answer any questions on this topic.

Seismic Standards for Schools

Information on this topic has recently been sent to Proprietors. There is also an important document on the Ministry of Education's website 'Earthquake Strengthening School Buildings'. NZCEO can supply further information if required.

Learning and Behaviour Service

The Minister of Education has recently announced changes to the Resource Teachers: Learning and Behaviour (RTL B) service. The aim of the changes is to bring better quality and consistency to the services. Northland, West Auckland, South Auckland, Coromandel, Waikato, East Cape, Gisborne, the West Coast, South Canterbury and Central Otago are all projected to gain RTL B positions. Changes will be in place from February 2012.

A Continuing Reminder

Principals and Boards of Trustees are reminded of the need to follow due process when contemplating any expenditure relating to capital works with a value of \$5,000 or more. Failure to follow due process could result in difficulties with school auditors, the Ministry of Education and the Office of the Auditor General. Guidelines are available in the Catholic Schools Board of Trustees Handbook (on the NZCEO website) and on the Ministry of Education website.



Congratulations to:

Otago, Southland Regions:

Columba College, Dunedin: Kate Waterman and Tineke Jannik tied for 1st place in the senior section of the 2011 National Chinese Speech Finals. Tanya Ashworth and Hannah Pearson tied for 3rd place in the junior section. Jessica Barton, Helen Kent and Melanie Redding were awarded 1st prize in the Premier Section of the Jeunes Auteurs pour l'Europe Competition. Imogen Davis was selected for the 2011 National School Shakespeare Production. Kate Campbell received a Sir Peter Blake Environmental Young Leader Award.

St Peter's College, Gore: Alice Wilkins passed her Solo Diploma in Jazz Ballet. Kendall Witham, Matt McKone, Jess Phillips and Alice Miller were selected as leaders for the National Search for the Stars concerts

St Kevin's College, Oamaru: Sean Hand won the National Lions' Club International Young Speechmaker Contest. He will now compete in Canada and the United States.

Canterbury, South Canterbury and West Coast Regions:

Roncalli College, Timaru: Ashlea Small received the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award.

Villa Maria College, Christchurch: Emma Maslin won the St John's Grand Prior's Award. Georgia Bellett and Shannon Hegarty gained 1st placings in the National Competition of the NZ Association for Gifted Children.

St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch: The six student YES team, Advanced Clean Energies that developed the 'Lion Emergency Generator', which can produce electricity from waste heat to power cell phones and charge batteries, were congratulated by Helen Clark, former PM and current head of the UN Development Programme, when she attended the launch at the school. The product has been sent to a school in Tanzania, and is being sold in New Zealand.

St Bede's College, Christchurch: At the World Championships in Performing Arts in the United States, Hayden Withers won 2 golds, 4 silvers and 4 bronze, was the overall Senior Grand Champion in dance, and has been offered a 3 month scholarship to the Millenium Dance Complex in Los Angeles.

St Patrick's School, Kaiapoi: Mitchell O'Hara won the 9-11 years National Champion title at the NZ Irish Dance Championships.

John Paul II High School, Greymouth: Emma Blanchfield, Karyn and Emily Robbins and Sophie Molloy are competing in the U.S. Dance Finals.

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

Hutt International Boys' School, Silverstream: At the New Zealand National Brass Band championship Andre Brown came 1st in the U15 National Solo Percussion section.

Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt: Grace Levien, Lydia Steel, Gemma Billingham, Kacie Lewton, Lizzie McCaffrey, Jamie Barr-Brown, Jane Clancy, Olivia Lambourne, Erinna Lane

and Emma Peterson were awarded the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Hillary award.

St Patrick's College, Silverstream: Scott Basalaj and Liam Higgins played in the NZ U20 Football team that competed at the World Cup in Columbia.

St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie: For the 7th year in a row, Kuini Vidal won her age group at the National Irish Dancing Championships. The school has inaugurated Sapere Aude (Dare to Learn), an evening programme of workshops for senior students aiming for excellence in NCEA or scholarship, to encourage higher thinking and stimulate academic success.

St Patrick's College, Kilbirnie: At the National Young Singers in Harmony Barbershop Chorus Competition The Saints retained their champion title, The Baby Blues quartet gained 2nd and The Ringtones 4th.

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

St Peter's College, Palmerston North: Shannon Hollard was received the Queen's Guide Award. Gold Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Awards were presented to Elizabeth Begley, Emily Bills, Charlotte Booker, Kieran Clark, Connor Gibson, Isaac Harris, Louise Ingram, Elise Judd, Joseph Nichol and Daniel Rine.

St Joseph's School, Hawera; Joshua Bird's winning story in the NZ Post Children's Book Awards Writing Competition, has been selected to be published.

Nga Tawa Diocesan School, Marton: Belinda Ross, Sian Poulton, Anna Atchley, Sarah Jensen, Helen Anderton and Georgia Hodgson took part in the Youth to Everest Trek. Natalya English, Jessica Hadlow and Sian Poulton, the only secondary school students attending the NZBIO 2011 Students Scientific Poster Competition, received 3rd place for their poster, with a PhD student and a Master's student claiming 1st and 2nd place.

Hukarere Girls' College, Napier: Business Studies student group Mapihi Maurea will attend the World Expo for Culture and Business in China.

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

Sacred Heart Girls' College, Hamilton: Erena Calder-Hawking and Sophie Gerring gained 1st and 3rd place respectively in the NZ Association for Gifted Children Writing Competition.

Bethlehem College, Tauranga: Jessica Te Whaiti will represent NZ at an International Exchange Cadet Programme in Singapore. At the National Concert Band Competition the jazz band gained silver and the concert band gained bronze.

Northland and Auckland Regions:

Carmel College: Photography students Ruth Bell and Natasha Pezic had their work published in the NZ Herald. Sinead Lee came 1st in U15 girls section at the NZ National Irish Dance Championships. In the American Classical League examination Dayna Vautier gained Cum Laude, Elizabeth Scott and Anneke Simmonds gained Magna Cum Laude and Emma Doolin gained Maxima Cum Laude.

St Mary's College, Ponsonby: Joella Pinto has been selected as a member of the National Youth Orchestra.

De La Salle College, Mangere: In the AUT Business Planation Challenge for senior Business Studies students the 5 student team, Maaola Ioane, Eric Aiolupotea, Rodrick Tahavalu, Tupufia Petaia and Sigifili Poufa Pesaleli, won 2 of the 5 sector prizes and won the overall award. The school was one of four Auckland schools invited to provide their school haka for the waka bringing the RWC teams into Auckland viaduct at the opening of the Rugby World Cup on September 9th.

St Dominic's College, Auckland: The school has been awarded Enviro Schools Bronze, the first Catholic secondary school in the country to gain this award.

Sancta Maria College, Botany: Volunteer lifeguard Patricia Harris was a member of a team that pulled an unconscious, non-breathing man from the water, and worked on his resuscitation for 45 minutes. The team gained the Northern Region Rescue of the Year Award: "Without their actions the person would have died."

Tātaiako Launched

A new resource to help improve Māori student achievement by strengthening the cultural awareness and skills of teachers in schools and early childhood education services has recently been launched. As well as providing links to the graduating teacher standards and the registered teacher criteria, it provides examples of how learners and whānau might describe appropriate behaviours by teachers and leadership. It is already available at www.minedu.govt.nz/tataiako, and is also available in print form.

Human Rights in Education Resources

Human Rights in Education Mana Tika Tangata provides free resource material on human-rights education in schools. HRIE started in England, and has been widely praised by schools involved in the programme in New Zealand. The programme focuses on developing students' understanding of their rights and

responsibilities as citizens, respect for others and the ability to examine issues through an ethical lens. See www.rightsined.org.nz or email info@hrie.net.nz for more information.

Pasifika Education Plan 2009-2012 Shows Good Progress

A mid term review of the Pasifika Education Plan shows positive results in early childhood education (participation up by 9.2%), schooling (some improvement in Level 2 NCEA results, and better student retention) and the Youth Guarantee (20% of places filled by Pasifika students). More participation is still needed in early childhood education, and an increased focus on literacy and numeracy at school level.

New Educational Resource Available

'Create a flag for your classroom/school – the study of flags school kit'. This resource contains 10 photocopiable worksheet lessons on flags, symbolism, design etc. Activities are suitable up to Year 8. Cost \$5.00 plus post. Purchase from fayetohbyn@gmail.com, or 04 387 3210.

'Attendance Matters - Guidelines for implementing an effective attendance management plan (2011)' Released

This document has recently been circulated to schools. It replaces the 2007 Attendance Guidelines, and is a companion document to 'Improving Attendance – Case management of truancy and the prosecution process (2010)'. It is also available at www.minedu.govt.nz/attendance.

'General Guidance on good practice – searching students and confiscation'

This timely resource will be welcomed by Boards and Principals. It is available from the Ministry of Education at www.minedu.govt.nz/Boards/SupportForBoards/GoodPracticeSearchingStudentsAndConfiscation.aspx.

Recent Reports from Education Review Office

- 'Directions for Learning: The New Zealand Curriculum Principles, and teaching as Inquiry'.
- 'Secondary Schools and Alternative Education' Both documents are available at www.ero.govt.nz under National Reports.



"He that can't endure the bad will not live to see the good."

Yiddish proverb



"Where'd you learn the word insomnia?"

Career Pathways Work Progressing

From 2012 students will have access to information that will enable them to see what NCEA courses they should take, to lead them into five broad vocational pathways. Combined with further development of vocational approaches in schools and the establishment of more Trade Academies, New Zealand's high rate of students aged 16-24 who are not in further education or employment may start to come down. A total of 2000 students will be able to enrol in 21 Trades Academies from next year.

Guidelines for Induction and Mentoring and Mentor Teachers 2011

The above document has recently been released by the New Zealand Teachers Council. It is designed to be of use not only in schools with provisionally registered teachers, but for collegial support of all teachers, including those new to teaching in New Zealand.

Faith-based Schools to be Featured

The November edition of North and South magazine is expected to provide a feature article on the success of faith-based schools in New Zealand. A number of integrated schools were interviewed to provide material for the article.

Focus on Creating a Positive Learning Context

Patrick Walsh, principal of John Paul College, Rotorua and President of the Secondary Principals Association of New Zealand, attended the International Symposium for School Principals, in Toronto. He noted: "A keynote speaker, Pasi

Sahlberg from Finland, a consistent top performing country in the OECD's PISA results, advanced the thesis that Finland's success comes from a focus on creating 'a positive learning context' rather than a focus on academic achievement in itself. He suggested that if you concentrate on creating a caring school with an emphasis on positive relationships, a love of learning and targeted professional development, then academic achievement will naturally follow without having to get overly worried about it."

Sympathy Expressed

Sympathy is expressed to the staff, children and families of St James School, Palmerston North on the death of Corporal Doug Grant in Kabul on SAS duty. His children are part of the St James community.

University of Melbourne Research on 'Attitudes and Behaviours for Learning'(AB4L)

2010 research by Prof. Michael E. Barnard of the Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne validates preparing students for learning by teaching them specific attitudes and behaviours. The strength of students' positive attitudes and behaviours for learning determines whether they will achieve to their maximum ability. Students trained in AB4L showed significant increases in reading comprehension and in their behaviours for learning. The programme was equally effective for boys and girls, and both teachers and students appreciated its positive effect.

Publication of Your School's Successes in Lighting New Fires

We learn of your students' successes if you inform us. Many schools do this through sending us their newsletters (either by post or electronically). Some schools have their development officer send us a specific message relating to students' academic, cultural and sporting success. We normally highlight national-level achievements. For further information contact s.apathy@nzceo.org.nz.

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bnz partners **KONICA MINOLTA**

Kia kaha, kia māia, kia ū!

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