

### Editorial

PAT LYNCH

#### A CULTURE OF GRATITUDE

More than one saint was of the view that if the only prayer you ever uttered was, THANK YOU, this would be more than enough in one's relationship with God.

This fundamental appreciation of the importance of gratitude in one's life is something countless generations of good people have come to understand and to practise.

We all have had experiences of working in places where gratitude was part of the enterprise's culture. Unfortunately, some of us have experienced the reverse, as well. The difference in the dynamic of the two experiences is marked. Satisfaction, optimism, hope, empathy, well-being and fundamental happiness accompany the positive experience. Without the oil of gratitude in one's workplace the darker side of humanity tends to exhibit itself, exposing bitterness, stinginess, envy, blame and back biting.

An analysis of what occurs when gratitude is the structure of one's life reveals the emergence of the powerful dynamos that drive human communities forward. These dynamos deliver the fundamentals that guide human progress: resilience, well-being, reverence for others and a deep-seated respect for those one interacts with.

It is of more than passing interest that students of work cultures and domestic settings all agree that gratitude is the spiritual dynamo that enables progress to be made in human communities, whatever challenges they might face. It is the basis for building spiritual capital.

The question we all need to answer from time to time is how do I express my gratitude and appreciation to those I live and work with? The answer to this question is related to how happy we are or will become.

#### Featured in this issue:

- 1 Property Management Handbook for State Integrated Schools
- 2 Formation of an Association of Teachers of Religious Studies
- 3 NZTC Website on Using Social Media to be Launched

#### Greetings

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou.

We wish you well as springtime makes its wonderful presence felt.

#### Christchurch Two Years On

New Zealand has just acknowledged the two year anniversary since the first Christchurch earthquake. Integrated schools acknowledge the courage of everyone in Christchurch, as the long task of reconstructing lives and buildings continues. We continue to offer our support to you in your daily lives.

#### Property Management Handbook for State Integrated Schools

This handbook has been in draft form for some years now, and it is now likely that the Toolbox Online for State Schools might be used for integrated schools, with some additions to cover those aspects that are different for integrated schools and their Proprietors. The obligations and rights of Proprietors will need to be spelled out. The Office continues to talk with Ministry of Education staff on the matter.

#### Insurance of Schools

The difficulties around insurance of school buildings, particularly in areas with a high risk of earthquakes, have been under discussion all year, with various proposals presented to Proprietors. It will be some time before any satisfactory solutions can be assured. Meantime, given the legal requirements around insurance, the Office continues to keep the Minister of Education updated.

#### Declaratory Judgement

Since the High Court Judgement on the uses of attendance dues was received in favour of NZCEO a number of follow-up meetings have been held with Ministry of Education staff. Proprietors have now received templates to fill in from the Ministry of Education, and then attendance dues will be re-gazetted for 2013.

#### Formation of an Association of Teachers of Religious Studies

NZCEO, working with NCRS, has initiated a national association of teachers engaged in teaching Religious Studies in integrated, state and independent schools. There has been a significant need for such a professional vehicle for teachers, to enable greater collaboration, sharing of expertise, and a unified voice where appropriate in working with various Government agencies. The move has been met with enthusiasm. A newsletter is being provided, and a steering group is being called together, to work on "next steps".

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

**St Joseph's School, Oamaru:** Antonio Francis-Rees won 1st place in the New Zealand Association for gifted Children's Photo Competition.

**St Hilda's Collegiate School, Dunedin:** Sings Hilda! won the NZ Choral Federation Cup for the best performance of a New Zealand composition.

**Roncalli College, Timaru:** Molly Piddington was selected as one of ten successful entries for the Skulduggery Pleasant Ten Times the Awesome international writing competition.

**Holy Family School, Wanaka:** Sammy Burke received a Sir Peter Blake Young Leader Award, and Caitlin O'Brien, year 4, won 1st place in the Year 4-8 Computer Capers Central Otago/Southland Competition.

**John McGlashan College, Dunedin:** James Mustapic scooped the grand prize in the 2012 NZ International Scifest 'Science Idol' competition with his You Tube clip Covalent Love, which parodied Justin Bieber.

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

**St Bede's College, Papanui:** Sam O'Neill's painting entitled "12:51" won the Art2Die4 Competition held at the Bryce Gallery; he and Geordie Nicholson will have their own exhibition at the Bryce Gallery next year.

**Villa Maria College, Christchurch:** Cellist Catherine Kwak has been chosen to perform as a soloist with the Budweis Philharmonic Orchestra in Switzerland, at the International Summer Academy in Biel. Con Brio won the silver medal at the National Big Sing Competition.

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

**St Mary's College, Wellington:** Jemima Lomax-Sawyers was named in the Russell McVeagh New Zealand Schools' Debating Team, for the World Schools' Debating Championships in Turkey.

**Garin College, Nelson:** Jaco Van Staden and Paddy Ferris were members of the Nelson Youth Brass Band which won the youth grade at the National Championships. Joel MacManus placed 3rd in the Fedex/JA International Trade Challenge.

**St Bernard's College, Lower Hutt:** Lim Win and Jack Marra won the Sir Peter Blake Young Leader Award.

**St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie:** Materials technology students have made 'Bags for Botswana'. These will be sold to raise money for nuns running a day centre for children orphaned by AIDS.

**Sacred Heart School, Petone:** has recently published a Matariki year calendar, Ka Pai Kai 2012.

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

**St Peter's College, Palmerston North:** Charlotte Grant, year 12, was a member of the New Zealand Secondary Schools Choir that took part in the Ihlombe Choral Festival in South Africa. Alex Barrow, Rhys Walshe, Brenda Palenski, Sarah Murrell, Jonathon Kriechbaum, Rebecca Long, Aliesh Mallon, Eleanor Grant, Siobhan Hennessy, Muriel Eade (former student), Jessica Love (former student) received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Awards from the Governor General, Government House.

**Lindisfarne College, Hastings:** Marcus Jackson has won the 2012 Sounz Composer Award with his composition "While Dreamscapes Stagnate" which he performed as part of the winning 'Dreamscapes Quartet' at the Chamber of Music Regional Finals.

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

**Sacred Heart Girls' College, Hamilton:** SuMin Yoon won a bronze medal at the International Biology Olympiad held in Singapore.

**Bethlehem College, Tauranga:** Choirs won three awards at the New Zealand Chamber Music Competition: Best Group Over-all - Cantabile; Highly Commended - 229 Strings; The Stratham Award for the best performance of a New Zealand work – Vivace.

**Northland and Auckland Regions:**

**De La Salle College, Mangere East:** The College has introduced a new Boat Building Course at Level 2 for 12 Technology students. This course will run for two years and successful students will gain the National Certificate in Boat Building Level 2 with 38 credits. The Certificate will lead to an apprenticeship organised by NZ Marine.

**St Mary's Catholic School, Papakura:** Flautist Evangeline Moverley was chosen to play with the New Zealand Navy Band.

**Holy Cross School, Papatoetoe:** The school has produced a DVD about Embrace, a holistic engagement programme designed to raise the academic achievement levels of Māori and Pacific Island primary school children by creating in them a passion for learning, the skills to support this, and wrap-around home, community and teacher support.

**A Brief History of the Integration of Catholic Schools in New Zealand into the State System of Schools**

This paper has been sent to Catholic schools, Proprietors and other personnel. Given the significance of the topic and the need to be conversant with the history of the issue, other Proprietors and schools may also wish to have a copy on file, to refer to when necessary. Please contact the Office for a copy.

**Without Limits Magazine**

This NZ magazine would be ideal in the school library, because of its inspiring stories of young people who are succeeding despite a range of physical disabilities. It also includes useful articles for school leadership on safety devices and practices. See [www.withoutlimits.co.nz](http://www.withoutlimits.co.nz).

*"You teach who you are."*

Parker Palmer

## YES Students Gain Publicity

St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch Young Enterprise students were featured on TV1 in a programme outlining their work with young prisoners at Christchurch Men's Prison. Sam Mackwell, the team leader of last year's top award company Advanced Clean Energies, recently went to Rarotonga for the Pacific Leaders Forum, at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He made a presentation to the Private Sector Dialogue session at the Forum. The only school student present, he was photographed with the Prime Minister of NZ and with the Prime Minister of Australia.

## Latest Reports from the Education Review Office – July, August

- Evaluation at a Glance: Priority Learners in New Zealand Schools. This is a particularly important review, which suggests schools are making necessary changes only slowly. The three key issues are: the need to shift to student-centred learning, the need to knowledgeably implement a responsive and rich curriculum, and the need to use assessment information to know about and plan for each student's learning.
- Careers Information, Advice, Guidance and Education (CIAGE) in Secondary Schools
- Ako Panuku: An evaluation of the programme's effectiveness
- Teaching as Inquiry: Responding to Learners
- The New Zealand Curriculum Principles: Foundations for Curriculum Decision Making
- Literacy and Mathematics in Years 9 and 10: Using Achievement Information to Promote Success.
- It is very worthwhile for Board of Trustees members to read these reports, as well as principals and teachers. They are accessible at [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz).

## ERO Drops Decile Ratings

The Education Review Office has recently announced that it will no longer show a school's decile rating on its ERO report. ERO believes that the decile rating, which is used as a funding mechanism by the Ministry of Education, is too often misinterpreted as a rating of the quality of education the school provides. "By removing the decile rating from ERO's reports we hope to help remove this element of confusion and correct this misconception," the Office said.

## Opportunity for Secondment to ERO

Principals can approach regional ERO offices at any time to indicate their interest in being seconded to ERO for 1-2 terms. This is valuable professional development.

## Ministerial Report Released on 'Person A'

The Ministerial Report is a useful reminder to Boards of Trustees and principals that applicants for positions (including LATs) need to be very carefully vetted, referees followed up in detail, proof of identity checked, and all suspicions reported promptly to the Teachers Council or to police. Part Four of the Report includes several recommendations for action by principals and Boards of Trustees. The Report and the recommendations are available at [www.minedu.govt.nz](http://www.minedu.govt.nz).



## Responsible Cyber Citizen Agreements

[www.netsafe.org.nz](http://www.netsafe.org.nz) has a range of useful information and agreements suitable for different age levels. It is wise for Boards of Trustees and senior management of schools to set time aside annually to consider cyber safety within the school, and to review documentation. NZCEO has a simple copy of a cyber citizen agreement if schools wish for an alternative to the Netsafe documents.

## Creative Commons

An article in a recent Education Gazette stressed the value of Boards of Trustees adopting Creative Commons copyright licences for teaching resources. Adopting a Creative Commons policy stimulates teachers to collaborate more, and to reuse, remix and share resources without infringing copyright. Wikipedia and the New Zealand Government (and others) use Creative Commons. Visit [www.creativecommons.org.nz](http://www.creativecommons.org.nz) for more information.

## Crown School Property Review

In mid-June the Government announced a review of the Crown's state school property portfolio. The review does not affect integrated schools, but the model used for funding the buildings of integrated schools is of interest to those leading the review.

***"Success always comes when preparation meets opportunity."***

Henry Hartman

## Did You Know?

Globalisation is not nearly as broad-based as it might seem. Exports account for only 20% of the world economy, cross-border foreign direct investment is only 9% of all investment, only 15% of venture-capital money is deployed outside home borders, less than a quarter of internet traffic is routed across a national border, and about 90% of the world's people will never leave the country in which they were born. (Time Magazine, August 20, 2012)

## New Zealander of the Year 2013 Nominations Open till 12 October

Visit [www.nzawards.org.nz](http://www.nzawards.org.nz) to find categories and nomination forms for the New Zealander of the Year Awards 2013.

## Assistance for Emergency Preparedness in Schools

Boards of Trustees and principals are reminded that Readynet is a useful and easy way of ensuring necessary data for a time of emergency is accurate and available. It is free in the following Council areas: Auckland, Tauranga, Rotorua, Whakatane, Opotiki, Kawerau, Western Bay of Plenty, Upper Hutt, Hutt City, Porirua, Buller District and Christchurch. In other areas the annual fee is very moderate. More than 20% of schools are connected to Readynet. See [www.readynetinfo.co.nz](http://www.readynetinfo.co.nz).



"Why do I have to be something when I grow up?  
Can't you just accept me for who I am?"

## New Rock and Water Training Available

New Rock and Water specialised training options have been announced, for Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), Focus on Girls/Women, and Primary School (School Wide). These add to the range of psycho-physical social training for teachers and boys. Find out more from [www.rockandwater.co.nz](http://www.rockandwater.co.nz).

## NZTC Website on Using Social Media to be Launched

On 11 October the NZ Teachers Council will launch a website designed to provide teachers with guidance on using social media ethically and confidently. It will include guidelines for ethical practice, ethical dilemmas scenarios, resources for teachers and frameworks that schools and early childhood services can use for professional development.



"I love it when my dad packs my lunch!"

## Did You Know?

The e-intensity index, published by Boston Consulting, states that in engagement in e-intensity NZ is 4th in the world, but it is midway in enablement and under mid-way in expenditure. The UN ranks NZ 2nd in the world for human capital (adult literacy and educational enrolment). The New Zealand Institute ranks NZ 4th out of 29 (OECD) countries) in educational achievement. (See 'Success in the Digital Economy', The Headlight Series, [www.2020.org.nz](http://www.2020.org.nz).)



KONICA MINOLTA

**equico**  
Funding Technology

### Kia kaha, kia māia, kia ū!

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