



### Editorial

PAT LYNCH

It is twenty three years since the Tomorrow's Schools reforms were ushered in, with the view to making our New Zealand school system more effective. The central new structure was the inauguration of a system in which each school is a self-governing Crown Entity responsible for delivering a quality education for each child in its care. We have come to accept that while the system has some weaknesses, it is far superior to the one it replaced.

New Zealand has reached the point where the linkage between education attainment and economic and social well being is blazingly clear.

Given the nation's size, and the flexibility we have available to us to create change, the time has come to look very closely at how individualised or personal learning plans for each student can become the norm. Trustees, teachers and Proprietors owe it to our children to think about how personalised learning plans could operate for most students, rather just a few.

Progress always occurs when people from disparate backgrounds get together and kick around ideas in a collaborative setting. Silo thinking is out the door when this occurs. Engineers engage in stress tests to see if an object or a building is sound - how might we apply stress tests to our delivery of education, so the inherent potential of each of our students is identified, nurtured and released?

Tomorrow's Schools is in need of an injection of adrenaline if we are to see New Zealand placed in a more advantageous listing vis-à-vis other nations. Attainment gaps between ethnicities are not inevitable. The best practice of stand out school performers can easily become common practice!!

*"In moments of weakness and distress, it is good to tread closely in God's footsteps."*

Alexander Solzhenitsyn

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#### Greetings

**Tēna koutou katoa. Ka nui ā mātou mihi ki a koutou i te wā nei. Anei ngā pitopito kōrero o te wā.**

**Welcome to the new school year, which is gaining pace – we trust it is going well for you!**

#### Congratulations

The Hon Hekia Parata is congratulated on her appointment as the new Minister of Education.

#### Christchurch Earthquake Anniversary

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and school communities of Christchurch, who have courageously taken part in activities to mark the first anniversary of the earthquake on 22 February 2011. Integrated schools throughout New Zealand, and the total community of New Zealanders are with you.

#### Attendance Dues Accounts Circular 2011/07

Proprietors are reminded of the Ministry of Education Circular of 30 November 2011, which outlines the requirements for reporting to the Secretary for Education on attendance dues income and expenditure for the year ending 31 December 2011. For further advice contact the Ministry of Education or NZCEO.

#### Declaratory Judgement Process

The Declaratory Judgement in the High Court on the uses to which Proprietors may put attendance dues, will be heard on 2-3 April, with a verdict expected a month later.

#### Office of the Auditor General's Review of Spending in Integrated Schools

The Office of the Auditor General is conducting a review of how Proprietors' financial systems interact with the financial systems of their Boards of Trustees. Approximately 100 schools have been notified that they have been selected to take part in the review.

#### Government Review of the Private Schools Conditional Integration Act

Initial work on this review will take place in 2012, with no legislative change proposed this year. The aim is to ensure the Act is still fit for purpose, and to provide any updates deemed useful. The purposes and safeguards in the Act will not be changed.



**Congratulations to:**

**Congratulations to Schools and Individuals**

**Otago, Southland Regions:**

**St Kevin's College, Oamaru:** Katherine Hope won the prize for the Top Scholar in Yr 11 Science. Over 70 schools participated in this programme.

**St Joseph's School, Queenstown:** Josh Swain auditioned for the Royal New Zealand Ballet and won the role of the Persian Prince in Sleeping Beauty. Riley Chandler has been invited to audition for the New Zealand School of Dance – unprecedented for someone so young!

**St Mary's School Kaikorai, Dunedin:** The school won the Transpower Neighbourhood Engineers Award.

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

**Villa Maria College, Christchurch:** Georgia Bellet and Shannon Hegerty gained 1st placings for Awareness Art and Writing, respectively, in the NZ Association for Gifted Children's National Competition. Salome Lennon was selected for the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum.

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

**Garin College, Nelson:** Year 9 maths team Jack Keenan, Sam Harrison, Frank Quin, Jansson Ford and Carlos Drysdale won 1st place in the International Stock Market Game. Benedict Morrissey, Matthew Ruffell and Michael Shanahan won the 2011 New Zealand's Next Top Engineer Science Competition at the University of Auckland.

**St Joseph's School, Nelson:** Lisetta Darroch won first place in the NIE Personal Experience Writing Competition.

**Hutt International Boys' School, Silverstream:** Andre Brown was selected for the National Secondary Schools Brass Band. Oliver Floodsmith-Ryan has had his poem 'Memory' selected for 'Submerged: Magical Tales by Kiwi Kids,' a book of poems and stories published by New Zealand Post.

**St Mary's College, Wellington:** Chido Dimario won 3rd place High St Fashion and Karen Meehan won 3rd place Fashion Design costume in the Young Designers Awards. At the BP Innovation Competition Livy Mitchell and Anna Hinderwell gained 1st place for the most innovative product services.

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

**Sacred Heart Girls' College, New Plymouth:** Lauren Nottingham has been awarded the New Zealand School of Music Jazz Scholarship.

**Francis Douglas Memorial College, New Plymouth:** Shane Jury has been awarded the Margaret Cooper Trophy for Academic Excellence. This is a national award for a deaf student.

**Lindisfarne College, Hastings:** Harry Greig (violin) and Marcus Jackson (flute) will play with the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Symphony Orchestra.

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

**John Paul College, Rotorua:** Rebecca McMenamin has been awarded a Geysers Community Foundation Trust Scholarship for speech and drama.

**Aquinas College, Tauranga:** Dan Collins was a Realise the Dream Finalist, and won the Etito Bright Sparks Award.

**Diocesan School for Girls, Hamilton:** Danielle Sutherland and Sarah Adam won the NZIFST/Crest Student Product Development Challenge.

**Northland and Auckland Regions:**

**Rosmini College, Takapuna:** Theodore Carlos, Charles Tucker and Foss Shanahan all gained Scholarship in Technology in Year 12, with Theodore being the Top National Scholar in Technology. In all, students gained 30 Scholarships.

**Elim Christian College, Botany:** Phillip Grant and Zenas Kim were awarded the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award. The school won the Teamwork Award trophy at the Kiwi First Lego League (FLL) national competition.

**St Dominic's Catholic College, Henderson:** Andrea McDermott, Rhonwen Grace and Samantha Lee were awarded Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award.

**Carmel College, Milford:** Emma-Kate Putnam came 3rd in the NZ Association of Modern Dance Scholarship Weekend. Maggie Lin and her team came 2nd against 14 other countries in a competition on traditional Chinese culture.

**St John's School, Mairangi Bay:** The school has gained reaccreditation with Investors in People, having demonstrated a culture of continuous improvement.

**Our Lady Star of the Sea School, Howick:** Ada Chan, Sarah Jang and Patricia Balatero gained 1st place in Cantonese, Korean and Tagalog respectively at the Auckland regional multilingual speech contests.

**Congratulations on Scholarship Results**

Congratulations to the many students in integrated schools who gained scholarship awards (see academic results for top awards).

**Congratulations to Enviro Schools**

We congratulate our 41 primary and 7 secondary integrated schools that are Enviro Schools. Particular congratulations to:

**Green gold school:** Our Lady of Fatima School, Mairehau, Christchurch

**Silver:** St Francis Xavier Catholic School, Whangarei; St Mary's School, Northcote; St Joseph's Catholic School, Fairfield, Hamilton; Maranatha Christian School, Lower Hutt; St Bernadette's School, Naenae; St Patrick's School, Masterton; St James School, Aranui, Christchurch; St Brigid's Tainui, Dunedin.

**Bronze:** St Joseph's School, Dargaville; St Leo's Catholic School, Devonport, Auckland; St Columba's Catholic School, Frankton, Hamilton; St Peter Chanel Catholic School, Te Rapa, Hamilton; St Francis School, Thames; St Mary's Catholic School, Gisborne;

St Teresa's School, Featherston; Marian College, Christchurch; St Joseph's School, Timaru; St Joseph's School, Rangiora; St Patrick's School, Invercargill; St Teresa's School, Bluff.

## Congratulations to Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Scheme Competitors

Auckland Seventh Day Adventist College, Garin College, Nelson, Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt, and St Dominic's College, Henderson were among the 23 schools awarded national finalist status. Finalist St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch was awarded the Todd Corporation Award for Young Enterprisers, the New Zealand Aid Award for Solving a Development Problem, the MOVAC Award for High Growth Potential and James Agnew received the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants' Young Managing Director of the Year Award.

## CEO's Monthly Blog

The CEO of NZCEO publishes a monthly blog on current general education issues, which is available on the NZCEO website. Those wanting it delivered directly by email can contact [p.lynych@nzceo.org.nz](mailto:p.lynych@nzceo.org.nz).



## Cyber Sin the Movie

This is an 8 minute movie designed for classroom use presenting a vivid story of teen text bullying. Made in Australia and premiered at World Youth Day 2011, it can be watched at [www.cybersinthemovie.com](http://www.cybersinthemovie.com), (a great site for students) or can be purchased in DVD form for AUS \$35 from Ozemag, 2 Bursaria St, Peregrin Beach Qld, 4573, Australia.

## Asia:NZ Business Resource Online

Asia:NZ has recently released NCEA Level 1 resources for Business Studies. Workshops for HODs are available, with relief costs provided. Go to [www.asianz.org.nz](http://www.asianz.org.nz) and type NCEA in the search box to see the full list of NCEA resources and workshops. Principals' meetings will take place in March across New Zealand, on "Connecting with China: Equipping Young New Zealanders with 21st Century Knowledge and Skills". Information is on the website.

## Did You Know?

The world's population will reach 7 billion this year. NZ has 0.06% of that number.

## Congratulations

Anne Kenneally, St Mary's School, Mosgiel, featured in a video on NZ Curriculum Online in January. Having visited various schools to research different styles of learning spaces, she is now reorganising her classroom and enabling learners to lead the learning.

**"Christianity has taught us that love is worth more than intelligence."**

Jacques Maritain

## Assessment for Learning

St Joseph's Ashburton's professional development in assessment for learning, led by the UC Education Plus team, was written up in the November edition of the Canterbury Advisors' Magazine. For more information contact [geoff.moore@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:geoff.moore@canterbury.ac.nz)



"We were told to multitask, so I was attending class while sleeping."

## A 'Must Read, Must Use' Book

'Towards a World Leading Education System: Fieldbook of Facilitation Resources' is a new text by Cliff Edmeades, former Auckland principal and facilitator for Team Solutions. In a clear, practical and useful way, and drawing on the best and most recent research, it provides a range of ideas and resources to assist school leaders in curriculum and professional development. For more information, and to buy a copy, contact Cliff: [edmeades@ihug.co.nz](mailto:edmeades@ihug.co.nz)

## A Good Idea

Some schools now offer students the opportunity to engage in focus groups in order to surface good ideas about how the school could be improved.

## Did You Know?

Children in NZ's higher decile communities generally start school with a working vocabulary of 6,000 or more words in English. Children in lower decile areas may have a working vocabulary of less than 3000 words. [www.cognitioninstitute.org.nz](http://www.cognitioninstitute.org.nz) has an article on how to improve school entrants' patterns of interaction and oral expression in the classroom. (Go into Talking Research.)

## Anti-Bullying Policies Often Inadequate

A joint research study by Australian Catholic University and the University of Otago Medical School has found that many school anti-bullying policies are inadequate. Policies do not usually include bullying on the grounds of homophobia, religion or disability, many schools do not have cyber-safety policies, and most policies lack detail on how to prevent and follow up incidents of bullying.

## Did You Know?

NZ draws skills from around the world. In 1986 NZ adopted the Canadian and Australian models of immigration: a points system according to age, qualifications and other criteria, no matter what countries the applicants come from. In New Zealand 60% of people are approved for the skills and qualifications they can bring to NZ, 35% for family reunification reasons, and 5% for humanitarian reasons.

## School Network Upgrade Programme (SNUP)

So far 78 integrated schools have been included in the programme. It is expected that all schools will be completed within five years.

## Some Auckland Statistics

Auckland is the biggest Pasifika city in the world. 177,936 Pasifika people make up 13.7% of Auckland's population. 56.8% of Pasifika Aucklanders are born here, and some are 4th generation New Zealanders. Ethnically 50% are Samoan, 23% Tongan, 20% Cook Island Maori, 10% Niuean, and 5% are Fijian, Tuvaluan or Tokelauan. (Total over 100% as some people have more than one ethnicity). 67% of all Pasifika people in NZ live in Auckland.

## Carrousel Theatre Bilingual Puppetry Tour

Carrousel Theatre will tour its bilingual puppetry production of the Jungle Book in May/June. The production is suitable for primary and secondary schools, and available in French, German, Italian, all supported by English, and English only. Email [enquiries@carrousel.com.au](mailto:enquiries@carrousel.com.au), or visit [www.carrousel.com.au](http://www.carrousel.com.au)

## Human Rights-Based Education – What Will Your School Do in 2012?

Ced Simpson, Director of the Human Rights in Education Trust, offers staff workshops and other support, and would be interested to publicise any school's work in this area. Email [ced.simpson@hrie.net.nz](mailto:ced.simpson@hrie.net.nz), or visit [www.hrie.net.nz](http://www.hrie.net.nz)

## Did You Know?

The Pew Research Center reports that 70% of Americans feel overwhelmed rather than informed by the amount of news and information they see. Critical thinking, including the ability to judge the reliability and credibility of news reports and news sources, is a fundamental 21st century skill.

## NZCER Research Supports the Importance of Attitudinal Competencies

NZCER researchers Cathy Wylie and Edith Hodgen have discovered that attainment of NCEA Levels 1-3 can be linked to attitudinal competencies (perseverance, communication, social skills, curiosity and self-management) even more than to cognitive measures. The first three years of school are crucial in developing students' engagement, and their attitudinal competencies, as well as their literacy and mathematics competencies.

## Did You Know?

The Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Lensing Survey has found that it is likely that the gravitational pull of dark matter caused the formation of galaxies. Dark matter makes up 90% of the mass of the universe.

## A Reminder

Principals and Boards of Trustees need to follow due process when contemplating capital works expenditure with a value of \$5000 or more. Guidance is available in the Catholic Schools Board of Trustees Handbook, on the NZCEO website and on the Ministry of Education website. NZCEO is happy to answer queries on this.

## ERO on the Five Characteristics of Effective Schools

ERO states that across all types of schools, effective schools have

- A focus on the learner
- Inclusive leadership
- Effective teaching
- Engaged communities
- Coherent policies and practice as part of continuous self review.



## Kia kaha, kia māia, kia ū!

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