



Editorial

SUSAN APÁTHY

A recent report from Ofsted (the English equivalent of the Education Review Office), 'Twenty outstanding primary schools – excelling against the odds' examines the characteristics of formerly failing schools that are now achieving excellent results. Those schools have put into place actions that integrated schools recognise as fundamental to success in teaching young people.

The report identified that these schools provide affection, stability and a purposeful and structured experience; build, and often rebuild, children's self belief; teach children the things they really need to know and show them how to learn for themselves and with others; give children opportunities, responsibility and trust in an environment which is both stimulating and humanising; listen to their pupils, value their views and reflect and act on what they say; build bridges with parents, families and communities, working in partnership with other professionals; ensure their pupils progress as fast as possible and achieve as much as possible (outperforming both similar schools and many with fewer challenges).

Our integrated schools by and large do all these things well, and achieve excellent results, nevertheless, it is a deeply interesting set of qualities to ponder, and to use as a checklist for practice. It starts with affection, and progresses mainly through aspects of personal relationships, with an end result of academic achievement. Putting the child at the centre of everything, combined with high aspirations and expectations, is vital for high achievement.

We encourage you in all that you do to keep up your excellent educational practice. Taking up the challenge to improve still further is a matter of focusing on meeting individual potential, commitment to the wellbeing of each individual, and respect and partnership with families and whānau. We wish you well for the term ahead.

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Greetings

Ki a tātou te hunga ora, ngā mōrehu o rātou mā, tēnā tātou, tēnā tātou, tēnā tātou katoa.

Welcome to Term 2 – we trust that it goes well for you.

Information on School Websites

Proprietors and Boards of Trustees are reminded that any information on their websites relating to charges and donations needs to match information in the school's prospectus. In terms of accuracy, website information has the status of a prospectus. Areas that may come under scrutiny include any references to fees and levies, and requests for donations by either the Board of Trustees or the Proprietor. The Office is happy to provide further guidance.

School Board of Trustees Elections

Elections for the new school Boards of Trustees will occur in many schools on May 7th. We wish you well for the success of these elections, and for the success of the new boards as they take office.

Auditor General Scrutinises Funding of Integrated Schools

'Central government: Results of the 2008/09 audits' was recently published by the Office of the Controller and Auditor-General. Part 9 of this document covers accountability for public funding of integrated schools. The Office comments that the Ministry of Education has improved its guidance to integrated schools, to help prevent inappropriate spending. The Office intends to closely monitor the Ministry's progress on improving transparency in the area of public funding in relation to integrated schools. The APIS Office is to discuss the report with the Auditor General.

Congratulations

Patrick Walsh, Principal of John Paul College, Rotorua, has been elected as the new President of the Secondary Principals Association of New Zealand. Paul Daley, Principal of Sancta Maria College, Botany, Auckland, has been elected as his deputy. This is an historic occasion to have the leadership of the national organisation headed by principals from two integrated schools.

"It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dreams of yesterday are the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow."

Robert H. Goddard



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

St Hilda's Collegiate, Dunedin: Kate Wilson received the gold Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award.

Canterbury, South Canterbury and West Coast Regions:

St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch and St Bede's College, Christchurch were first equal in the Bishop Lyons Shield.

St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch: The school has entered its first Pacific YES team into the national Young Enterprise programme.

Villa Maria College, Christchurch: Jessica Pullar has been selected as a member of the official NZ delegation to attend the ANZAC celebrations at Gallipoli. Seonaid and Eilish Espiner have been selected for the NZ Secondary Schools Orchestra. Katie Jayne Rochford gained a Rakatahi Award.

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

St Patrick's College, Kilbirnie: The school was the subject of a positive front page story in the Dominion Post on 3 March.

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

St Mary's School, Hastings: The school was profiled in a large article in the Dominion Post on 19 February, for its biking initiative.

Sacred Heart College, Napier: Jordan Anderson will represent Napier in the 2010 Youth Parliament.

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

St Thomas More Catholic School, Mount Maunganui: The school received a one page profile in the Bay of Plenty Times, which focused on what makes the school special.

Campion College, Gisborne: Anya Goodall was presented with the Grand Prior badge by the Governor General, this is the highest award within the St John Youth Cadet organisation.

Northland and Auckland Regions:

Te Wharekura o Manurewa, Southgate, Auckland: The kura has achieved 'stand alone' status, a wonderful milestone. Associate Education Minister Pita Sharples expressed his congratulations to the kura.

St Mary's College, Ponsonby: Danielle McLean was selected to represent Auckland Central at the 2010 Youth Parliament.

Carmel College, Milford: Jenny Zhang was selected to represent North Shore at the 2010 Youth Parliament. Emerald O'Keefe, Jemma Milicich and Tara Sholji were selected to attend the Michael King Writers' Centre Young Writers' Workshop. Gabrielle Shin has been accepted to play with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra as part of the "Big

Play In". Aimee Coombes will travel to Los Angeles to sing in the World Performing Arts Championships.

Elim Christian College: Joshua Warner has been selected to participate in the NZ Chemistry Olympiad Trust Training Group.

Sancta Maria College, Botany: Joseph Xulue will represent the Botany electorate in the Youth Parliament.

Marist College, Mt Albert: Denyce S'ua has been selected as a member of the official NZ delegation to attend the ANZAC celebrations at Gallipoli.

Grandparents' Effect on their Grandchildren

According to recent research led by Oxford University in collaboration with the Institute of Education, London, the relationship that children, particularly adolescents, have with their grandparents can contribute significantly to the child's wellbeing. Grandparents who get stuck in and do things with their grandchildren, help them with their problems and talk with them about their plans for the future are most likely to make a difference. A piece of NZ research, 'A View Over Time' by Jill Worrall, on the role of grandparents raising grandchildren in New Zealand, can be found at www.raisinggrandchildren.org.nz.

Efficacy of Self Review

The Education Review Office stresses the importance of self-review in schools, and reports that when school leaders learn practical steps toward reviewing their school's performance they feel a sense of empowerment. Review officers aim to take a complementary role to the school's own process of self review.

Education Review Office Recent Publications

Reading and Writing in Years 1 and 2 (December 2009).

Progress in Pacific Student Achievement: a Pilot Evaluation of Auckland Schools (September 2009).

Integration Agreements

Each school has its own integration agreement, signed by the Proprietor and the Crown. The principal and the Board are wise to be familiar with the document. From time to time school principals or boards ask us if we can provide them with a copy of the agreement, as they cannot find a copy in the school. While we do hold a copy of every integration agreement, we believe that it is appropriate that the school first approaches the Proprietor for a copy of the agreement.

Business Studies Achievement Standards Available

This year Business Studies will be available at level 1 NCEA. Levels 2 and 3 will follow in 2011 and 2012 respectively. Visit www.nzqa.govt.nz to view the standards, and: www.seniorsecondary.tki.org.nz to view the teaching and learning guidelines.

Literacy Learning Progression Published

The Literacy Learning Progressions for Years 1-10 have been revised and republished. Copies have been distributed for every teacher of students up to Year 10. Further copies are available through www.thechair.minedu.govt.nz.

Screenrights

Teachers are reminded that details about what may and may not be copied from television and replayed in classrooms is available from www.screen.org through the New Zealand licence page. schooltv@screen.org provides a regular email on programmes that might be particularly useful for teachers.

Principals' Digests Subscriptions Worth Renewing

Principals' Digests are available by post or electronically. They are quick to read and visionary, and they meet the needs of primary and secondary school principals for informative material for assemblies, newsletters, staff meetings, parents and speeches. Contact editor Linda Braun at: digests@xtra.co.nz to renew subscriptions, or visit: www.principalsdigests.com to see sample materials.

New Government Funding to Boost Attendance

The Minister of Education recently announced an additional \$4 million per year to allow more schools to use the electronic attendance register, implement early notification of absences by text message, and shorten the time taken to get non-enrolled students back into school. The aim is to reduce truancy figures.

School Network Upgrade Project

APIS is working closely with the Ministry of Education in relation to the roll out of the Project, as it affects integrated schools.

Sympathy Expressed

The integrated schools' community expresses its sympathy to the community of Stella Maris School, Silverdale, Auckland, on the recent road tragedy that deeply affected a school family.

A Worthwhile Publication

'Why Culture Matters to NZACS Christian Schools' is a text that could be of use to many Christian schools. Copies are available from the author, John Norsworthy, 53 Griffin Road, RD1, Tauranga 3171. RRP \$24.95. The book focuses on the topic of culture, from a Biblical/historical perspective. It would be useful for teacher professional development, and as a senior secondary resource.

"An idea needs an audience like fire needs air."

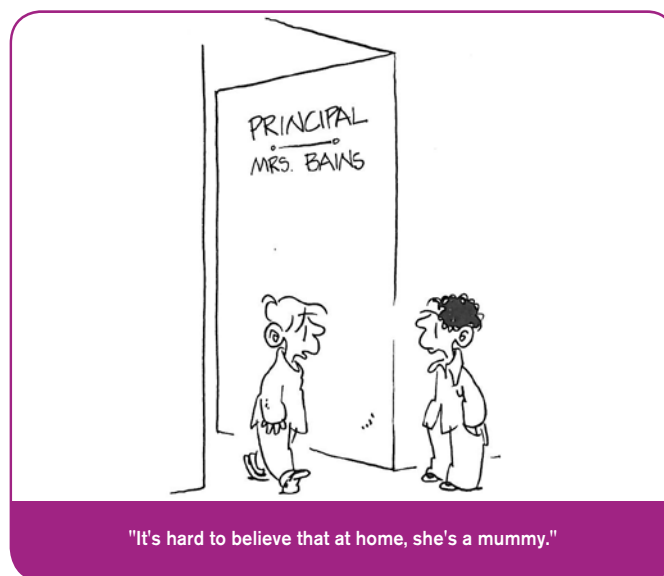
Thoughtleaders

Secondary School Standards Alignment Project

Schools are reminded that it is worthwhile to check the 'Standards Alignment' page of TKI for expiry dates for curriculum-based level 1, 2 and 3 unit standards. More trial schools are needed for a range of standards in several subject areas. Involvement in the development of exemplars and trial assessment resources provides excellent professional development. Information is available from Learning Media.

Resources Available

TKI has a range of professional development modules available to support teachers as they focus on National Standards. School leaders and classroom teachers are likely to find them useful.



Did You Know?

The New Zealand Charities Register has details of almost 25,000 charities, and a wealth of valuable information about the charitable sector. Generous New Zealanders have provided more than \$2.4 billion to registered charities in the latest financial year.

Website Attacks on Schools, Staff or Students

Peter Gall, retiring president of SPANZ, advises that if staff or students are "attacked" on public websites (even if the event mentioned occurs out of school hours) it is prudent for the school to take disciplinary action. He suggests: it would be wise to have a board policy that states that disciplinary action can be taken against students or staff who use electronic media inappropriately and the school is implicated; inform staff regularly that their careers can be compromised if they have inappropriate messages or images attributed to them on the internet; establish protocols for inter-staff messages via email. NZSTA can also provide advice.

Students in Chat Rooms – Reducing the Risk of Victimization

Children can be taught to follow the following precautions:

- Never download images from an unknown source – they could be sexually explicit.
- Tell an adult immediately if anything happens online that makes them feel uncomfortable or frightened.
- Choose a gender-neutral screen name that doesn't contain sexually suggestive words or reveal personal information.
- Never reveal personal information (including age and gender) to anyone online, and do not fill out online personal profiles.

(From www.media-awareness.ca)

Human Rights in Education – Relevant Research or Practice Sought

The NZ Human Rights in Education organisation seeks examples of any educator or school preparing to share its experience in facilitating human rights education or addressing human rights issues in education communities. Find out more at:

www.rightsined.org.nz. Join the Human Rights in Education initiative on the website or contact andrea@rightsined.org.nz.

Useful Websites

www.ted.com provides a huge number of short talks (10 minutes) by international experts on a wide range of "ideas worth spreading", including technology, science and global issues. Senior students, staff and parents will find it stimulating.

www.holocaustcentre.org.nz has resources for teachers about the holocaust.

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 **SPOTLESS**



Something to Think About

- At least two people in this world love you so much they would die for you.
- A smile from you can bring happiness to anyone, even if they don't like you.
- If not for you, someone may not be living.
- When you make the biggest mistake ever, something good can still come of it.
- Always remember the compliments you received. Forget about the rude remarks.
- If you have a great friend, take the time to let them know that they are great.

(with thanks to Elim College newsletter 17 February 2010.)

Asia Awareness

Asia Knowledge and Curriculum Workshops will be held in Wellington on 3 May, in Auckland on 10 and 11 May, and in Dunedin on 1 June. A New Zealand Principals' Delegation to China will take place on 9-20 October 2010. The application deadline is 28 May 2010. Visit www.asianz.org.nz for more information.

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