



New Zealand's overall productivity, economic growth and Gross Domestic Product, while good, are not at the top of the international indicators. We rank highly in other indicators such as well being of the population, lack of corruption and being a desirable place to live.

In considering our "can do better" indicators, a look at the rapidly changing ethnic composition of the nation's population reveals that the possibilities and potential of the burgeoning numbers of Maori, Pacific Island and Asian students, particularly in the upper half of the North Island, are significant. Well over 50% of the nation's under-18 year olds are from these groups. Where will these students be represented among the entrepreneurs and leaders who make things happen?

Another area to ponder is the dramatic technological, services industry, scientific and nanotechnology revolutions that are changing the way we interact with the world. In these areas individual New Zealanders are doing cutting edge work. We can ask, how can we leverage off this?

Entrepreneurship is not just a state of mind, it is about doing something creative and/or productive. Leaders at every level of society have the responsibility to place expectations before young people about the importance of improving their own lives and the lives of those around them. As President Obama says, "Poverty is not a destiny and neither is it inevitable".

Fortunately large numbers of integrated schools realise that by building a school culture that is predicated on spiritual values, high expectations and hope, all children can make a success of their lives and contribute to the well-being of New Zealand. While intellectual values are vital, even more important are the values that enable things to be done and to happen.

### Greetings

#### Ngā mihi o te wā ki a koutou

With the midwinter holiday over, we hope that you have been really able to enjoy the break.

### Ngā Taonga – living the treasure: New Zealand Catholic Education Convention 8-10 August, Wellington

Ko te taonga o tōku ngākau, ko tōku kura e - the treasure of my heart is my precious plume of education. The convention is almost upon us, and we encourage you to register online, if you have not already done so. Early Bird registration has been extended to 20 July. Go to [www.nzceo.org.nz](http://www.nzceo.org.nz), and follow the link to the convention website. If you have any general questions contact NZCEO, or email [anna@conference.co.nz](mailto:anna@conference.co.nz) for questions about registration. We are very much looking forward to this gathering of the wonderful Catholic education community of New Zealand.

### High Court Declaratory Judgement - Update

Following up after the High Court Judgement on the uses to which attendance dues can be put, NZCEO is still working with the Ministry of Education to finalise guidelines for Proprietors. Because of its legal obligations, the Ministry will issue the guidelines, rather than issuing them jointly with NZCEO. The NZCEO levy for work associated with attendance dues is still under discussion, but virtually all other matters are agreed.

### Auckland Catholic Secondary Schools Praised Again

In the June edition of Metro magazine the annual analysis of Auckland schools' NCEA results again provided much praise for our Catholic secondary schools. Our schools are congratulated on their dedicated and successful efforts for the academic results and general wellbeing of our students.

### Education of Pacific Islands and Māori Students

By 2050 approximately 57% of school-aged New Zealanders will be of Māori or Pacific Islands heritage. Already in Auckland Catholic schools Pacific students make up 29% of enrolments, more than twice the proportion in the wider state system in Auckland. Many of our schools are doing excellent work educating these students, but there is always more to learn. The recent Education Review Office report Improving Education Outcomes for Pacific Learners provides excellent examples of best practice. A link to the document has been placed on the NZCEO website, or download it direct from [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz).

### A Brief History of the Integration of Catholic Schools

A document has recently been dispatched to Proprietors, Boards of Trustees, parish personnel and others providing a brief history of the integration of New Zealand's Catholic schools into the State system. Originally formulated as part of the evidence presented to the High Court during the Declaratory Judgement hearing in April, 2012, it provides a valuable summary of information that it is worth sharing with all those involved in Catholic education.

### Building Condition Assessment Tool Available Free

Many Proprietors are using the Ministry of Education building assessment tool, which has been made available, with training, free to Proprietors of integrated schools. Proprietors are finding it very user-friendly. It sums up the state of repair of each building and places all the compliance and other maintenance requirements into the Ten Year School Property Maintenance and Development Programme.

***"Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."***

*St Francis of Assisi*

## Congratulations

- The New Zealand Catholic school system congratulates Bishop Denis Browne of Hamilton on his 50 years as a priest and 35 years as a Bishop.
- Congratulations to Tom Gerrard, principal, Rosmini College, Takapuna, who was awarded the ONZM in the Queen's Birthday Honours.
- Sir John Kirwan, former student of De La Salle College, Mangere, was knighted in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

## Support for Christchurch Catholic Schools

Cinnermon Buckley has been appointed to the three-year position of Earthquake Support Social Worker, thanks to the Christchurch Diocese and Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand. She will offer practical professional support and guidance to schools and their communities.

## Microsoft Sets Up a Network for Catholic Schools

In collaboration with the Catholic International Education Office (OIEC) Microsoft has set up a partnership to bring Office 365 and other resources to more than 200,000 Catholic schools worldwide. As well, it has designed an Azure-based Social Network of Catholic Education, which will provide scope for Catholic schools to interact with each other, share lesson ideas and so on, within a safe environment. Up to 43 million Catholic students worldwide are likely to be involved as the project rolls out internationally.

## Some Valuable Digital and Online Resources

[www.uscb.org/vocations](http://www.uscb.org/vocations) provides useful resources on vocations.

[www.avemariapress.com](http://www.avemariapress.com) has provided a phone app, including illustrations, on Pope John Paul's Way of the Cross. It has lots of other educational resources, and information about websites.

[www.thereligionteacher.com](http://www.thereligionteacher.com) is a "must visit" site, with a wide range of useful material.

[www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org) is a brilliant site created by Salman Khan, to help children learn maths, science and other subjects, through over 3000 bite-sized lessons and practice exercises that take students through complicated topics in a manageable way. It can be used by teachers in the classroom.

[www.edmodo.com](http://www.edmodo.com) is an online educational community for teachers and students. It allows teachers to post messages, discuss classroom topics, assign and grade classwork, share content and materials, and network and exchange ideas with their peers.

[www.evernote.com](http://www.evernote.com) has as its goal to help the world remember everything, communicate effectively and get things done. It has a significant collection of apps to make it easy to stay organised.

[www.thescreeencastinghandbook.com](http://www.thescreeencastinghandbook.com) provides a useful handbook on making better screencasts. Cost US\$19.

Google 'Facebook and faith' and see the significant range of pages that come up.

Google+ provides a safe way to set up groups and share information.

***"Each of us makes his or her own weather, and determines the colour of the skies in the emotional universe we inhabit."***

*Bishop Fulton J. Sheen*

## Meditation Publicised

Holy Cross School, Miramar featured on the front page of the Dominion Post in a major article on its Christian Meditation programme. There will be one or two seminars on this programme at the Catholic Education Convention.

## Prayer for Meetings

Staff Prayer Fire is a prayer resource kit available from [catchingfire@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:catchingfire@bne.catholic.edu.au). See flyer with this newsletter.

## Purchase Agreement with Noel Leeming

NZCEO has recently entered into a promotion and relationship agreement with the Noel Leeming Group Limited, which will enable Catholic schools, families and friends to purchase goods at a reduced price. Details have been sent to Principals and Boards of Trustees. Contact NZCEO if you wish to receive a copy of this information. Noel Leeming will also showcase digital devices at the Catholic Education Convention.

## A Worthwhile Initiative

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Wellington, has now established a children's cathedral choir. This idea could be worth replicating in other parishes.

## Did You Know?

There are 7.6 million students attending Catholic schools in the USA.

Proportional to Catholic population, more Catholic students attend Catholic schools in New Zealand.



**"Well the pressure has started. A man asked me yesterday what I wanted to be when I grow up."**



**KONICA MINOLTA**

## Mā te Atua koutou e manaaki, e tiaki.

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

**Susan Apáthy**, Deputy C.E.O.

**Maureen Condliffe**, Operations Manager

**Donna Campbell**, Financial Controller

**Jane O'Connell**

**Adele Pedreschi**

**Wendy Rozenberg**

Lighting New Fires is published by the New Zealand Catholic Education Office, PO Box 12307, Wellington. Phone: 04 496 1739  
Fax: 04 496 1734 or Email: [nzceooffice@nzceo.org.nz](mailto:nzceooffice@nzceo.org.nz)  
Website: [www.nzceo.org.nz](http://www.nzceo.org.nz)