



Canterbury and Chatham Islands Regional Newsletter 05 March 2018

Kia ora,

On 22 February Scot Kinley, principal of Bromley School hosted Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern and Ministers Megan Woods, David Clarke and local MP Poto Williams. The visit included a tour of some of the schools learning spaces, as well as the opportunity to meet students, staff and teachers. They were also treated to a wonderful performance by the school's Kapa Haka group.

While at the school the Prime Minister announced additional mental health support for year 1 - 8 students in greater Christchurch and Kaikoura.



The government will spend \$28 million to provide mental health workers for year 1 – 8 students for earthquake affected schools in greater Christchurch and Kaikoura. This new approach is being developed by Canterbury DHB, the Ministry of Health, other social service providers and ourselves. It will enable resources to be tailored to the needs of each community and align with existing services, providing advice, guidance and support to children, their families, whānau and teachers.



I have included more details in the bulletin regarding the above announcement. We will be hosting an information meeting at our Christchurch office on Monday 12 March, and we will run a repeat of this on Wednesday 14 March for those of you who are unable to attend on the Monday. The meeting will be facilitated by the Canterbury District Health Board.

Teachers honoured with awards

Six teachers spanning early learning, primary and secondary education received honours at the ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA) at an official ceremony hosted by Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education in Wellington last month.

Selected from more than 200 nominations, Glenys Parry from Craighead Diocesan School in Timaru and Helen Peters, early childhood education teacher at Kidsfirst Kindergarten in Beckenham, Christchurch were honoured for their inspiring and innovative contributions to teaching.

It is wonderful to see Glenys and Helen recognised for their contribution to education; congratulations to you both.

Linwood College students take part in the Maibiz Business Challenge



Congratulations to the Y12 students from Linwood College who took part in the three day [Maibiz programme](#). MaiBiz is a fun and challenging insight into life outside the school walls that blends business and essential life skills into one special three day event.

Staff from our team were delighted to attend the final day of presentations where 120 Linwood College students got to showcase and pitch their innovative business ideas to a panel of judges.

As part of the challenge, students learnt the building blocks of successful business including leadership, teamwork, financial reporting, creating innovative business ideas, time management, goal setting and much more.

Timaru Girls' High School

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the Minister of Education, Chris Hipkins was at Timaru Girls' High School to officially open their refurbished learning environments. The building project also included re-roofing, re-cladding and the upgrade of their gymnasium.

Thanks to everyone involved, but special mention to the staff and students, who stayed focused during the disruption that comes with construction.



Image: Timaru Girls' High School senior students with the Hon Chris Hipkins

Thank you also to Ian Poulter, principal of Bluestone School in Timaru who hosted the Minister of Education at a meeting with representatives from the combined Timaru Kāhui Ako.

Improving mental health services for children in greater Christchurch and Kaikoura

[On 22 February 2018 the Prime Minister announced additional support for year 1 – 8 students in greater Christchurch and Kaikoura.](#) The additional support is to help promote and sustain wellbeing and increase access to services when mental health concerns are identified.

Initially, additional mental health support will be provided to year 1 - 8 students in two Kāhui Ako – Tamai in Linwood and Hornby. We expect this will start in mid-April 2018.

The approach will be trialled in these two Kāhui Ako, before being extended across greater Christchurch and Kaikoura to allow for the development of a larger scale response in 2019 to addressing the wider challenges that children and their families may be facing.

There will be an information meeting at our office facilitated by CDHB on Monday 12 March, and we will repeat the meeting on Wednesday 14 March 2018 at 4pm for those who are unable to attend on the Monday. We have sent information to all our schools, but if you have not received this please contact Simon.Blatchford@education.govt.nz

Upcoming Events

Grow Waitaha events update

Grow Waitaha makes a range of free events available to the community, including workshops, forums and communities of practice. The website is regularly updated with new events and you can [read more information and register for events here](#).

Canterbury Explorers – parent and teacher evening

Learning to Exhale: Meeting the intellectual and emotional needs of gifted children - an evening with Jim Delisle.

Date: Wednesday 21 March

Time: 7:00pm for 7:15pm sharp start

Location: The Medbury Centre, Medbury School, 109 Clyde Road, Fendalton

Cost: \$15 for members, \$25 for non-members or \$10 Students.

Please [click here to book](#).

The Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards – Entries close soon

A reminder the Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards entry deadline is almost upon us – you've got until Friday 23 March to [submit your entry](#). A story in the [Education Gazette](#) may help you fine-tune your entry.

Education Minister Hon Chris Hipkins [announced the judging panel for the PMs Excellence Awards](#).

School Visits for Term 1 and 2, 2018

We are offering school visits to a range of schools across Christchurch and the wider Canterbury area who are working in a variety of flexible learning environments. Please [click here for a list of schools, including dates and times](#) of the tours. If you would like to book a visit then please email CHCHSchools.Rebuild@education.govt.nz.

Please provide your name and contact details, the school you are from, the number of visitors you want to be accommodated, the school(s) you want to visit and what day (a second choice date is also useful). Some schools are negotiable as to what day and time they can have visits. **It is really important that you book your visit to confirm your place on the tour.**

Grow Waitaha also offer schools **facilitated visits**. This is an opportunity to have support with professional discussions for your tour group. The feedback from these facilitated tours has been great! Please go to the Grow Waitaha website and click on Events to see which of these dates are facilitated at this school www.growwaitaha.co.nz

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss any ideas or issues. You can always call me on 03 378 7345, 0274 200 251 or email me at Coralanne.child@education.govt.nz I look forward to hearing from you.

Enjoy this fortnight's bulletin.

Mā te wā

Coralanne Child

Director of Education for Canterbury

Canterbury Regional News

Ministry of Education
