

Canterbury Regional News

Kia ora,

As we all know term 4 always seems to go by so quickly, with everything that needs to be completed for the end of the year, along with planning for the start of the new school year. I hope you managed to relax during the break in readiness for another busy term.

We regularly check and update our databases to ensure we have your schools' correct contact details. NZSTA updates us with changes to contact details each week so that we can update our databases. To make sure your contact details are current please complete the [online form on the NZ School Trustees Association website](#) if the membership of your board of trustees changes and when a principal or board chair changes. This form does not need to be completed for trustees who are re-elected to the board.

Congratulations to Craighead Kindergarten, who was recently awarded the Small Business Award in the South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards. Craighead Kindergarten was one of four finalists for this award category, from a total of 74 entries in the business awards. They celebrated their win with a celebration afternoon tea with their children and families; with the children playing hosts. Congratulations, it is wonderful to have your team recognised.



This year's Communities of Learning | Kāhui Ako survey will run from **Wednesday, 25 October to Wednesday, 8 November**, not from 18 – 20 October as you were initially advised.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any guidance and support from us.

Mā te wā,

Coralanne Child

Director of Education for Canterbury



Wellbeing@School survey now free of charge

The Wellbeing@School student survey is now available to all schools

To support schools to engage their school community and students in discussion about student wellbeing, we're making the [Wellbeing@School student survey](#) available to all schools. The tool is now free for schools to use until December 2018.

The Wellbeing@school survey has been specifically designed to help schools identify how different aspects of school life contribute to a safe and caring environment that deters bullying. Gathering data also provides a baseline for monitoring outcomes over time.

The tool is designed to involve the whole school community in a self-review process. Collecting data on what is happening in schools is an essential component of a successful bullying prevention approach.

Bullying can be hidden from adults, with school staff often only seeing and hearing a small percentage of what's really happening. A school may appear okay when there is actually an underlying problem. Local and international research tells us that bullying is a serious problem in our schools. The best way to find out how students genuinely feel about the environment at their school is through an anonymous student survey, such as the Wellbeing@School survey.

Gathering data, especially from students, is important to determine the level and type of bullying that occurs, whether existing efforts are working and get a full picture of what's going on, rather than relying on how things appear on the surface. It can also suggest particular areas of focus.

Sign up for the free [Wellbeing@School student survey and toolkit](#) or [find out more about the Tool](#). You can also access resources to help you put a bullying prevention programme in place on the [Bullying-Free NZ website](#).

The Government recently announced a \$22 million [investment in new mental health initiatives](#) for schools, early learning services and Kāhui Ako. These have a focus on prevention, early intervention and resilience-building.



School Transport

Earlier in the year we welcomed Craig Reynolds, who you can contact with questions about school transport. We are delighted to have such a resource in the regions and this is quite a change as we move away from the centralisation of staff.

We don't provide school transport when there is suitable public transport available. In the future, provision may change as public bus routes open up.

If a school bus isn't available, students may be able to get an allowance to help pay for transport to school. Students must meet all [3 eligibility criteria](#) to receive school transport assistance including no suitable public transport options.

For further information please email Craig st.canterbury@education.govt.nz or phone 03 378 7309.

Social Workers in Schools funding model

The Minister for Vulnerable Children has agreed to move to a new funding model for Social Workers in Schools. The new model will use a two staged approach, starting 1 July 2018.

Subject to government investment priorities for Budget 2018 and beyond, Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) is planning to move to a needs based funding model.

- The new funding model would allow all children in schools with unmet needs to have access to social work support.
- The new funding model would take place over two stages starting from 1 July 2018.
- Existing services in schools would not be affected by the change to the new funding model.



School visits term 4, 2017

A reminder that 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.

The list of the schools and dates for the [term 4 school visits are listed here](#)

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!

If you would like a facilitated school visit email Ngaire Shepherd-Wills through Grow Waitaha ngaire.shepherd-wills@core-ed.org or call 021 166 0158.