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Canterbury Regional News

Kia ora,

The year has started with a real buzz and much activity. It has been wonderful to speak with many of you and I look forward to this continuing throughout the year.

It has also been a time to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of two pioneers in education with the recent passing of Robin Duff and Hoana Bosustow.

Robin is remembered as an education and gay rights activist, he was the senior vice president of the Post Primary Teachers' Association (PPTA), a senior figure in the association for 10 years, serving as junior vice president from 2005 to 2007, and president from 2007 to 2009 and again from 2011 to 2013. He sat as senior vice president from 2009 to 2011 and 2013 until his death. Robin's commitment to supporting secondary teachers and his work to make schools a better place for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) students is both nationally and internationally acknowledged. In recent years Robin had been working to support Canterbury teachers in the aftermath of the 2011 earthquake.

Hoana Bosustow was a respected teacher and leader of Te Kura Whakapumau i te reo Tūturu ki Waitaha. She will be remembered for her work and commitment to both the Kura and community. Very recently her work was captured in a television series which focused on Christchurch schools and featured on Canterbury Television.

We are here to support you; please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns as we are always happy to hear from you.

Ma te wa,

Coralanne Child

Director of Education for Canterbury



Creating an education network that inspires children to reach their full potential.

Te Matatini

Every two years the top kapa haka teams from New Zealand and Australia, compete for the honour of being crowned the best at the Te Matatini National Kapa Haka Festival. The national Kapa haka festival will be celebrated in Christchurch from 4 - 8 of March 2015. Attendees will experience a banquet of local cuisine, stunning arts and crafts and kapa haka. This is an exciting time from the Māori performing arts and the Ministry of Education is proud to be supporting this event. More information can be found on the [Te Matatini](#) website.

Investing in Educational Success

In the last couple of weeks we have been busy meeting a number of groups of principals and school boards about Communities of Schools (COS). Of the first 11 Community of Schools nationally two were from Canterbury. We know there are a number of groups of schools beginning to talk together about forming a community and we can give you all the help you need to get started, both at the beginning and later as you decide on achievement challenges, once approved as a COS.

Please contact your senior advisor if you would like to organise a meeting.

[You can now find more information here about Investing in Educational Success](#)

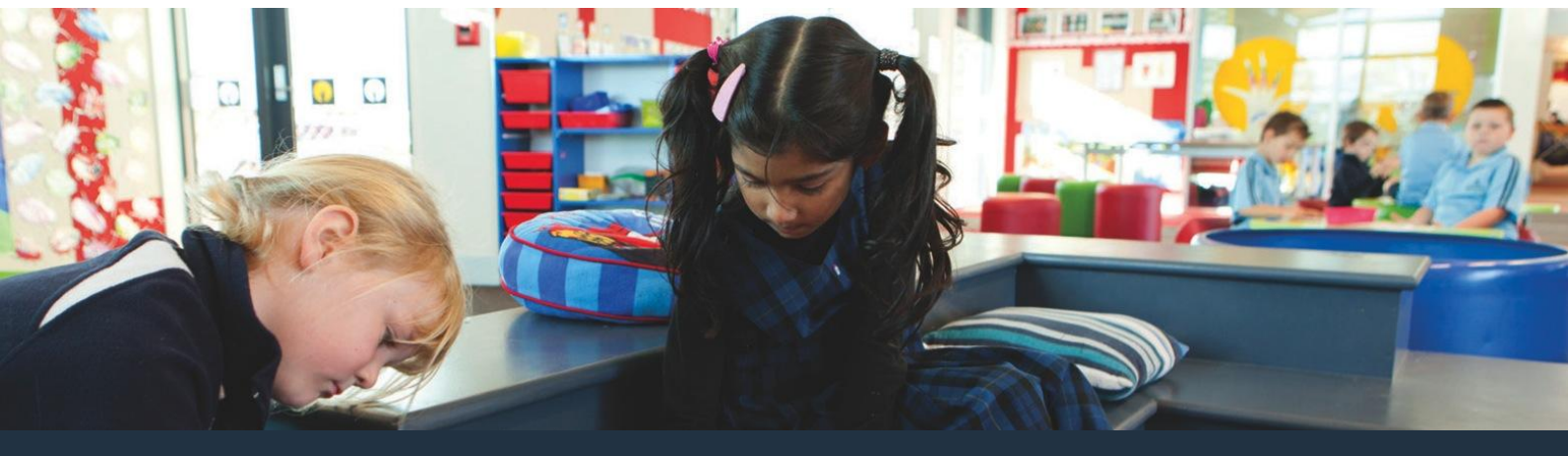
Media

A guide has been developed by Canterbury Principals' groups with the Ministry of Education to support you and help you support your staff, students and community when there is media interest in your school.

[Media Check Sheet](#)

Canterbury West Coast Secondary Principals' Association conference

The Canterbury West Coast Secondary Principals' Association conference is being held in Christchurch on the 10 and 11 March. The focus will be on modern learning practice in secondary schools for 21st century learners'. An update on the conference will be in our next newsletter.



Building a new and better future for education and for the community.

Collaborative initiatives making a difference

Young Leaders Camp - All of the Year 7 and 8 pupils from the Whakaraupo Learning Community Cluster - Diamond Harbour School, Governors Bay and the newly merged Lyttelton Primary School attended a 'Young Leaders' Camp' at Living Springs for the first two days of this new school year. The Year 7 and 8 teachers from the three schools were also able to get to know each other and enjoyed time to compare notes and make plans for further collaborative ventures in the future. The purpose was to give the students a chance to connect, collaborate, and think about their roles as leaders in their schools and as future leaders of their local community.



Each bunkroom was made up of students from each school and friendships were quickly established. 'Initiatives', team games, adventure based learning, great food and plenty of fun was complemented by a question and answer session with Speaker of the House, David Carter who lives and farms locally.

The next venture will be a combined harvest festival event, with Project Lyttelton, which celebrates the produce and producers of the harbour. A teacher-only-day for staff of all three schools, as well as our ECE members, is also booked for the Easter holidays.

Cluster leader Tracey Janes who organised the camp says: The three school principals have met regularly and already have a great working relationship. There was a hugely enjoyable event for all three boards and administrators from the schools, so it was definitely time to get the students working as a team too. The organisation was huge, especially as much of it had to happen over the Christmas holidays when many staff and students were away, but the results were amazing. It was fantastic to see the students mixing so well, working as a team.

The teachers and students have been in touch since our return from camp, and we are all looking forward to catching up again soon.

To enable us to share your projects please email: amanda.dowling@minedu.govt.nz