

# Canterbury Regional News

09 May 2016

## *Kia ora,*

It's hard to believe we are into term 2 already. With so much going on in the sector and the pace set to continue over the coming months, I hope you all had a chance to take some time out over the term break to recharge your batteries.

We all know about the benefits of quality early childhood services and the importance of providing the foundation for our children's education to help them achieve all the way through school. On Friday 29 April I had the privilege to attend the sod turning ceremony to mark the beginning of construction of the new Pan Pasifika ECE Centre in Hornby.

Thank you for all the work; both seen and unseen, that has enabled a request from the Pasifika community to become a reality. The centre is scheduled to open later this year.

Thank you to all those who have attended the workshops 'How to recognise and deal with children and young persons' exposed to or at risk of abuse' we have received such positive feedback and we are running another workshop on Wednesday 25 May. Please see more information in this newsletter.

Congratulations to Heathcote Valley School and View Hill School for their successful applications in the Airpoints™ for Schools programme. These schools can receive public donations up to a total value of 10,000 Airpoints Dollars each, to redeem on flights for educational purposes. You might like to consider supporting these schools via newsletters, your school website and community networks to encourage as many people as possible to donate their Airpoints.

With your donations Heathcote Valley School plans to support students' travel to Hokitika to monitor and compare spawning habitats of whitebait. View Hill School plans to support students to attend the World of WearableArt Awards and go on an education trip around Wellington.

You can make a donation or see their stories on the [Air NZ website](#). Donations close 3 June.

Mā te wā,

**Coralanne Child**

*Director of Education for Canterbury*



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

## **Establishment of Arahina ki Otautahi Service**

A new service, Arahina ki Ōtautahi is being established for young people aged 10-16 years old who are in non-residential care with Child, Youth and Family and are not engaged in education. At any one time the service will cater for up to 20 students from the wider Christchurch area. The service will be run by Kingslea School and will be supported by Child Youth and Family, NZ Police, Canterbury District Health Board, Ngāi Tahu and the Ministry of Education.

If you would like find out more we are holding a meeting for schools on Wednesday 11 May, 4:30pm – 5:30pm at the former Richmond School site, 19 Pavitt St, Richmond. Please RSVP to [Erin.King@education.govt.nz](mailto:Erin.King@education.govt.nz)

## **Children's Action Plan and the Vulnerable Children Act 2014**

The new measures in the Children's Action Plan and the Vulnerable Children Act 2014 are about keeping kids safe. Any organisation funded by the government must observe the provisions of the Vulnerable Children Act (VCA) for its children's workforce. Safety checking makes it easier to identify the small number of people who are a risk to children.

School holiday programmes that receive any government funding need to carry out safety checking of their workers in line with the requirements of the VCA. Organisations that don't receive any government funding are not covered by the Act – which may be some school holiday programmes. However we encourage school holiday programmes to safety check anyone likely to be alone with children.

This means they can give parents a good level of assurance that they have done everything they can to screen out people who may pose a risk. We also encourage parents to ask school holiday programme providers what kind of vetting they do of their workforce, when they are considering whether to enrol their children.

Safety checking has several elements:

- Police vetting, to find out if the person has any previous convictions.
- Confirmation of the person's identity.
- Thorough interviewing, referee checking, and checking of work history.

Please see [Safety Checking under the Vulnerable Children Act 2014](#)



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

## **Pan Pasifika ECE Centre in Hornby**

Four years ago our Pasifika Advisory Board held a Fono to discuss Christchurch Education Renewal and the possible options for Hornby. One of the requests was for a Pan Pasifika ECE Centre in Hornby.

Members of the Barnardos Pan Pasifika ECE Board, Barnardos Kidstart Childcare the Ministry of Education and the Hornby community were at the sod turning ceremony to mark the start of construction for the new centre.

This new Pan Pasifika centre is a great milestone not just for this community but for our city. It is an important partnership between Barnardos, the Pasifika community who are ensuring great opportunities for their fanau and the Ministry supporting locally-based solutions for families in Christchurch.



## **Residential Red Zone Survey Report**

In late 2015 CERA conducted a survey of more than 2000 property owners who accepted a Crown offer to evaluate wellbeing outcomes, and to determine whether the Crown's recovery objectives had been met.

The CERA Residential Red Zone Survey was developed in conjunction with Nielsen Research, with input from a Reference Group of relevant stakeholders. The survey included a set of questions about how former red zone residents have settled into new communities and these questions produced some useful information regarding the positive role played by schools in resettlement.

Please [click here](#) to view the full report.



*Putting children at the centre of their learning*

## Interagency Workshop

### **“How to recognise and deal with children and young persons exposed to or at risk of abuse”**

This workshop is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Education, Child, Youth and Family, and the NZ Police sensitising school and ECE staff to recognise children and young persons exposed to or at risk of abuse.

The workshop includes signs and indicators of children or young persons at risk of abuse; roles of professionals involved in dealing with suspected abuse, the process that follows a report of concern and child protection policies. Representatives from MoE, CYF and the Police will give you advice and good practice examples around the topic.

***Please bring your Child Protection Policy along for discussion!***

**When:** Wednesday 25 May 9.00am to 12.30pm, coffee from 8.45am

**Where:** McFadden’s centre, St. Alban’s Baptist Church,  
64 McFaddens Road, St. Albans, Christchurch

**For whom:** School principals or senior leadership member  
ECE centre managers or head teacher  
(1 representative per school/ ECE)

**RSVP:** Lynne James  
[Lynne.James@education.govt.nz](mailto:Lynne.James@education.govt.nz)  
03 378 7771

If you are unable to attend on the 25 May but are interested in attending a workshop in the future please let us know, as we will be collating expressions of interest for when we offer the workshop again later in the year.