



## Canterbury and Chatham Islands Regional Newsletter 3 December 2018

### Kia ora,

There have been many highlights and successes in 2018, and I am sure you will all be looking forward to having a restful break after what has been a busy year.

End of year events and prize giving ceremonies are such a special time for schools, kura, students and whānau. Thank you for inviting us to share these special occasions with you. Ministry staff who have had the opportunity to attend and share these moments with school communities always tell me what a great privilege it is to be part of your celebrations.

Southbridge School marked their 150 year jubilee with a weekend of celebrations and I was honoured to be with them on such a memorable occasion. Generations of students have enjoyed learning in a supportive school environment and after 150 years, Southbridge School continues its long tradition of being an integral part of their local community. We hope the weather did not interrupt the weekend activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to farewell our principals who have led significant transformation of their schools and have contributed to the development of education in Canterbury.

We wish you all the best whether you are retiring or embarking on new endeavours at the end of this term and a heartfelt thanks for your outstanding contribution, passion and dedication to education:

Margaret Dodds, Waitaha School  
Jeanette Shearer, Isleworth School  
Bernadette Ewer, St Joseph's School, Pleasant Point  
Janet Wallace, Duvauchelle School  
Richard Vanderpyl, Middleton Grange School  
Malin Stone, Greta Valley School  
Jillian Gallagher, West Eyreton School  
Angela Marshall, St Joseph's School, Fairlie  
Sarah Davis, Timaru Girls' High School  
Pamela Arthurs, St Peter's School (Beckenham)  
Andrew Morrell, Rolleston Primary School

This is our last newsletter for the year and our office will be closed **from 5pm, Friday 21 December** until **8am, Monday 7 January 2019**.

**If you require any support during these times please contact:**

- School Support Limited on 0800 111 775 for emergency responses to property matters i.e. fire, flood, extreme weather or email [Yvonne.caetano@education.govt.nz](mailto:Yvonne.caetano@education.govt.nz)
- Traumatic incident support team on 0800 848 326.

## Oaklands School Eco-Warriors placed 1st in New Zealand

The Oaklands School Eco-Warriors junior team headed off to the national finals in Auckland and came back as National Junior champions in the Community Problem Solving division.

The Eco-Warriors group meet each week to explore real life problems in their community. They began in Term 2 this year and have followed a six step problem solving model to reduce the amount of rubbish, particularly plastic packaging, in their school and community.



Five members of their group travelled to Auckland over the weekend of 2-4 November to compete in the national competition. They had to create a display, have an interview about their project and present to approximately 200 people on Saturday night. They also submitted a scrapbook and written report outlining all the work the team had done over the three terms.

They look forward to continuing with their project next year and their hope for the future is to have a rubbish free school and plastic free lunch boxes. Well done, what an awesome achievement. Congratulations to everyone involved in this great project.

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## Learning Support Team

As mentioned in the last newsletter Susan Schneideman has been appointed to the permanent role of Manager Learning Support for the Canterbury/Chatham Islands region. Susan leads the delivery of learning support services to our region and is supported by a team of learning support managers.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the team for learning and behaviour support needs. You can view service manager information [here](#) including their contact details.

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## Grow Waitaha – Your Stories

The Grow Waitaha team is always looking to share exciting stories about education in Canterbury. They welcome guest writers and blog posts and would love to feature some of the amazing innovations that are taking place.

There is a section on the [Grow Waitaha website where stories are shared](#), if you are interested in contributing a story, please email your idea to [growwaitaha@gmail.com](mailto:growwaitaha@gmail.com)

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## Mana Ake – Stronger for Tomorrow UPDATE

A collaborative response on mental health services for children. [Read the article on page 12 in the Spring edition of the Canterbury District Health board magazine.](#)

More information is available on the [CCN website](#)

## Education Gazette

### Earthquakes, excursions and localised learning experiences

A Canterbury geography teacher is using the context provided by the Christchurch earthquakes to help his students explore their personal and shared local histories.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## Early Learning Strategic Plan – Consultation Hui

The draft plan is open for consultation and hui are taking place around the country for families and whānau, kaiako, service providers, educators and the wider community to discuss the suggested changes and the timeline for introducing them.

The hui are primarily aimed at early learning providers, educators and parents, but anyone is welcome to attend. There will be a presentation about the draft plan, and opportunities for questions and discussion.

<b>Christchurch</b> <b>Thursday 13 December</b> Riccarton Park Function Centre, 6.30pm <b>Monday 04 February</b> Riccarton Park Function Centre, 6.00pm	<b>Ashburton</b> <b>Thursday 14 February</b> Hotel Ashburton, 6.00pm
<b>Timaru</b> <b>Monday 11 February</b> Southern Trust Events Centre, 6.00pm	<b>Rangiora</b> <b>Tuesday 19 February</b> Rangiora High School, 6.00pm

If you are interested in attending one of the hui [visit our events section and register now](#).

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## RTLB Year 11+ Funding

For 2018, annual funding for year 11+ students with learning and behaviour needs has been managed and distributed by the Ministry's regional offices. Following a meeting in September 2017 and subsequent engagement with schools, a decision was made for the Canterbury and Chatham Island region to use a pro rata distribution directly to schools with a \$1000 minimum. We will be using this method again for 2019 with payments being made directly to schools in January and July.

Please ensure your finance officer is aware of these payments. Letters outlining the amount for your school has been sent to the principal.

As agreed in 2017, there are minimum accountability requirements of either completing a one page statement or a statement in the 2018 annual report. This should be submitted to the Ministry at the time of submitting the annual report.

If you have queries regarding this funding please contact Simon Blatchford,  
[simon.blatchford@education.govt.nz](mailto:simon.blatchford@education.govt.nz)

## Growing Aotearoa

In the future, there will be a growing number of opportunities in our innovative primary sectors. The future of primary industries won't look the same as it has traditionally – growing populations, complex global trade and a move toward sustainability will pose new challenges. As primary industries grow to meet these challenges, the sector will need researchers, consultants, veterinarians, and people skilled in IT, engineering, robotics and other technological areas. Qualifications will be needed across a range of subjects from science and technology, economics, maths and engineering, right through to marketing and human relations.

It's important to develop our students to meet future demands and ensure they are exposed to future opportunities in the primary industries. NZ Young Farmers and Growing NZ have some useful teaching resources and opportunities for schools at [www.agrication.co.nz](http://www.agrication.co.nz) and [www.growingnz.org.nz](http://www.growingnz.org.nz). NZ Young Farmers are also working with other organisations to bring together over 100 teaching resources in one place so keep an eye of their website in 2019.

**Try it out in your school, call the NZ Young Farmers to find out more.** David Highsted (Territory Manager) is keen to hear from primary schools, or head of departments in science, maths and English in secondary schools, phone 03 344 2473 or 021 915 527, or email: [david.highsted@youngfarmers.co.nz](mailto:david.highsted@youngfarmers.co.nz)

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Working together, learning and supporting each other is the key for success and I appreciate the support of boards and principals who have worked closely with the Ministry on a range of projects this year.

Please enjoy your well-deserved break with loved ones, keep safe and we look forward to a new and exciting year of opportunities in 2019.

Enjoy the final bulletin for the year.

Mā te wā

**Coralanne Child**

Director of Education for Canterbury | Chatham Islands