

# Canterbury Regional News

14 November 2016

## *Kia ora,*

November is always a busy time of the year, and more importantly it can be a stressful time for students as they sit their exams. I wish all your senior students all the very best with these. I hope they are successful in demonstrating everything that they have achieved during the year and in their exam preparations. I also thank you for your dedication in preparing and guiding the students. You are a big part of our increased NCEA achievement for Canterbury students.

A Communities of Learning leaders' forum was recently held at National office. It was a great chance for the leaders to discuss their work, to share experiences and to plan in a consistent way. The Minister of Education attended the forum and spoke about her vision for Communities of Learning.

An OECD Group of National Experts in Effective Learning Environments held their annual meeting in Auckland last week. At this year's meeting, the delegates focused on how school infrastructure can support inclusive education, earthquake resilience in a Christchurch context and New Zealand examples of the link between pedagogy and school design. I have included more information later in the newsletter.

Lincoln Primary School celebrated the opening of their new modular buildings last week. Lincoln Primary is the first school in Christchurch to get these modular buildings and I would like to acknowledge the work of all those involved in the project. Not only will modular buildings help us respond to the changing needs in our region, they provide schools with wonderful new flexible spaces that can be easily adapted to support schools teaching and learning activities and future changes in practice.

Much work has been carried out to find appropriate build capacity for our schools entering the build programme and I have included more information later in the newsletter.

If we can assist you in any way please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mā te wā,

**Coralanne Child**

*Director of Education for Canterbury*



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

## OECD Visit of National Experts in Effective Learning Environments

OECD delegates from NZ, Ireland, Japan, London, Mexico, Norway, Paris, Greece, Turkey and the Netherlands were here to share information on effective learning environments. The delegates are highly respected experts on effective learning environments, and following their meeting in Auckland we hosted them in Christchurch where they visited Halswell, Waitākiri and Marshland Schools.

New Zealand's schools are of great interest in the international community. Our curriculum puts the students at the centre of learning, and each school has a unique vision for how it delivers quality teaching and learning.

### About the Group of National Experts on Effective Learning Environments

The Group of National Experts on Effective Learning Environments was established by the OECD in 2013. It meets annually with a focus on discussing the Learning Environments Evaluation Programme (LEEP). LEEP aims to produce instruments and analysis that informs school leaders, researchers, policymakers and others about how investments in learning environments, including the physical learning environment, translate into improved education, health, social and well-being outcomes, leading to more efficient use of education resources. The group has an interdisciplinary approach and a range of expertise including educators, designers, policymakers and researchers.

## Lemonwood Grove School

Lemonwood Grove School (new school) is a Year 1 – 8 primary school currently under construction in Rolleston. The school is opening in time for Term 1 2017. The project is also part of the Christchurch School Rebuild Innovation Programme.

With the help of Southbase Construction, a "Planting Day" was held for the community on Saturday, 5 November. As well as planting garden beds, there was a bouncy castle and BBQ. It was a great example of how the school continues to strengthen their relationships within their new community ahead of opening. Congratulations to all it was a great day.





## *Putting children at the centre of their learning*

### **Primary Build Capacities**

As part of the Educational Renewal programme following the Christchurch earthquakes all schools in Christchurch underwent a build programme that would help ensure the future proofing of education delivery across the city for the next 50 years and beyond.

As part of that process, rebuild capacities had to be decided on to ensure all learners across the city had the opportunity to attend their local school.

To do this there needed to be a set of underlying guiding principles:

- Local provision for local students
  - Ensuring that each school provided sufficient space for all learners in their catchment
- Future proofing the network to allow for forecast growth across the city
  - Allowing for some growth in the network whilst ensuring that there is not unnecessary over-capacity in any one area
- Maintaining a sustainable network of schools across the city
  - Ensuring that the current network of schools can continue to operate in an effective and efficient manner long term
- Maintaining proportional provision across each delivery type
  - Ensuring a sustainable network whilst retaining delivery type across the network

With these principles in mind, and looking to work alongside the sector, much work has been undertaken to find an appropriate build capacity for schools entering the build programme. Over the coming months, the Ministry will have the opportunity to work alongside many more schools to assist, where necessary, with education briefs and data analysis to ensure a co-created decision around the direction of education and the rebuild capacity of each school.

[This link](#) illustrates a small part of the full picture that is examined to ensure that we create a sustainable network of schools into the future.

Please put one of these dates below in your diaries.

WHO: Primary Principals and Board of Trustees Chairperson or representative  
PURPOSE: Information and data sharing on the rebuild process to date  
WHERE: Ministry of Education offices: 39 Princess St, Addington  
WHEN: Tuesday 6 December or Thursday 8 December (Same information REPEATED)  
TIME: 5:00pm – 7:00pm  
RSVP: Erin King [erin.king@education.govt.nz](mailto:erin.king@education.govt.nz)