

Canterbury Regional News

31 July 2017

Kia ora,

Welcome back to the new term and I hope you all had a lovely break. I have enjoyed a wonderful time away with my family and it's great to begin term 3 with renewed energy. It was a challenging final weekend of the holidays for some of you because of the severe weather we had. Following the flooding a few of our schools reported minor issues. Thank you for keeping us updated so we could get the right support to you.

There has already been the opportunity for our schools to celebrate milestones this term. Oxford Area School celebrated the official opening of their new Aotahi building, the opening of Hornby Primary School's new administration block was held last week, and Villa Maria College celebrated the opening of their new Kai Toa building with an official ceremony.

A lot of work goes into ensuring disruptions to schools is kept to a minimum during redevelopments. Thank you for all the work you do to allow staff and students to remain focused on teaching and learning during the redevelopments.



Image: Former principal Bob Norrish officially opening Oxford Area School's new building assisted by students

I also wanted to let you know that from the beginning of this term Susan Schneideman has taken on the position of Manager Learning Support for 12 months. Garry Williams will be the Manager Education picking up the overview of the areas Susan has been responsible for, including the ECE Portfolio. I will keep you updated if this changes.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of support to you.

Mā te wā,

Coralanne Child

Director of Education for Canterbury



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

Inter-agency workshop

Pornography, Social Media and Consent in the school environment

This workshop is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Education, Ministry for Vulnerable Children, Oranga Tamariki, the Police and the University of Canterbury.

The workshop will provide information and advice to support secondary schools in their work in this contentious area. It is aimed at principals, heads of relevant departments and any other school leaders in this area.

The workshop will have a maximum of 50 participants.

Please bring any relevant policies for discussion.

When: Tuesday, 29 August | 9.30am to 11.30am, coffee from 9.00

Where: McFadden's Centre, St. Alban's Baptist Church,
64 McFaddens Road, St. Albans, Christchurch

RSVP: events.christchurch@education.govt.nz





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

Communities of Learning | Kāhui Ako

Schools share data to identify support needed for students

The Hakatere Kāhui Ako consists of 12 schools in the Ashburton district. This Kāhui Ako has successfully used data and evidence to identify shared achievement challenges that will enable them to support and create greater learning opportunities for their students.

“Individually we knew all of our school data. The thing that was binding for us was that every school, no matter the size or location, had similar trends,” says lead Principal Hilary Boyce.

When sharing and discussing this data, the Kāhui Ako collectively agreed this was not about marketing or egos, but was about the students who were at the centre of these conversations.

Boards of trustees and teachers from the schools within the Kāhui Ako were presented with this data and discussed their shared achievement challenges. Since then, there has been wonderful support and commitment from everyone in the Kāhui Ako, as they recognised the need to engage collectively for greater impact.

“It’s really hard to argue or to stand outside of the view that we share the problem and that we solve the problem together,” says Hilary.

From this the schools within the Kāhui Ako have identified the importance in further developing their understanding about formative assessment and student learning progressions across the learning pathway.

The Hakatere Kāhui Ako’s vision is ‘collective pathways to success.’ This is based on a view that the Kāhui Ako collectively wants to travel forward but the pathways are different. Not everyone has to travel the same pathway at the same time.

“The next step is to really engage with our parents and whānau and start talking about what they want for their children,” says Hilary.