



## Canterbury and Chatham Islands Regional Newsletter 04 June 2019

### Kia ora,

Looking after your own wellbeing is critical to ensuring you can support your own family/whānau as well as others. As shorter days and colder weather approaches, it is important to think about how we can maintain physical activity and healthy routines. This [Mana Ake document](#) has tips on promoting wellbeing as well as fun activities and helpful links.

You can also access advice, guidance and information on the [Leading Lights website](#), which is available to all schools. The teacher information on the site is continually being added to.

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### Kaiapoi Borough School

Mayor David Ayres had the honour of officially opening the new and refurbished buildings at Kaiapoi Borough School. Students and staff were joined by parents and caregivers to celebrate the work and the school's kapa haka group performed as part of this special occasion. Congratulations to everyone involved in this project.



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### Learning Support Update

Since the beginning of 2018 we have been analysing data about stand downs, suspensions and exclusions of 5 and 6 year olds in Canterbury. During 2018 there were 180 stand downs of this age group and 8 exclusions. During Term 1 2019 there were 24 stand downs for this age group. Sadly, Canterbury's rate of standing down boys aged 5 and 6, is more than twice the rate of the rest of the country. From our discussions with principals we know this is a concern for you, and that stand downs are a tool you would prefer not to use with such young children. We want to help you to reduce these high numbers, as part of our overall focus on early intervention approaches aimed at strengthening student wellbeing and engagement.

#### So, what can we do together?

Where the child is already receiving a service from us, we would like to hear from you as soon as possible if you have stood the child down, or are considering this in response to escalated behaviour. Where the child is unknown to us, we would also like to hear from you to see how we can help. There may be additional strategies, resources or an intervention we can provide or connect you with to help this child be successful at school.

If we haven't already heard from you, you can expect to get a call from us within 48 hours of receiving notification of a stand down. The purpose of the call will be to review any plans that are already in place for the child and to consider what additional help or fresh approach is needed.

## Showquest

Showquest is a performing arts platform for schools, consisting of a nationwide series of events. In Christchurch on Monday 20 May and Tuesday 21 May a record number of schools took the stage.

Congratulations to all of the performers who took part this year, it was fantastic to see our students perform at the Christchurch Town Hall.

This competition is a great opportunity for students and it was inspiring to see such amazing talent.



Image: Burnside High School

On Monday night Cashmere High School was named the winning team. Their performance was themed Love is Love, encouraging people to stand up for each other and to be more accepting. Burnside High School took out the winning spot on Tuesday, with their piece themed around the arts.

A national final will name the top entry nationwide in September. For more information including full list of winners from the night and photos [visit the Showquest website](#).

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## Mana Ake – Stronger for Tomorrow

### Cluster Forum

**Date:** Wednesday, 26 June

**Time:** 9am-11.30am

**Venue:** The Design Lab, 17b Print Place, off Birmingham Drive, Middleton.



At the Cluster Forum in March, we explored implementation priorities for clusters. [Read a summary of that workshop](#)

In June we would like to focus on what outcomes you would like to see from Mana Ake for your schools and clusters and how we will work together to measure progress.

We would also like to explore how you are:

- prioritising children for support through group and/or individual interventions
- ensuring access to the support remains flexible and responsive in your cluster
- identifying opportunities for Mana Ake to have the greatest impact in your communities
- engaging with other services so Mana Ake is integrated into the broader pastoral supports for children.

Morning tea will be provided.

Please contact: [manaakefeedback@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:manaakefeedback@cdhb.health.nz) by **Monday 17 June** to confirm your attendance for catering purposes and to let us know if you have ideas to help shape the workshop.

## sPACPAC Pacific speech competition

Hornby High School hosted the annual sPACPAC Pacific speech competition. It was a great opportunity for the school to show off its new campus to the Pacific community. The evening was a huge success with many schools participating.

Parents, friends, families and school representatives filled the auditorium in support of students who were competing. Well done to all those involved and thank you to Hornby High School for hosting this year's event.



Image: sPACPAC Speech competition

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## Education Gazette

### Conservation kids protecting endangered species in Nina Valley

Eighteen kiwi have been repatriated into their habitat in the Nina Valley in the Canterbury region through the efforts of Hurunui College students, who contribute to their school's conservation work inside the classroom and through volunteering.

[Read the full story](#)

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## Measles

In Canterbury there were a total of 38 confirmed measles cases linked to the outbreak, plus one additional case. While it is great the Canterbury health authorities declared the measles outbreak officially over health authorities are still encouraging people, especially children, teenagers and young adults who have never been vaccinated to get immunised. MMR (measles mumps and rubella) vaccination is free for those under 50 who haven't had two doses. If you're not sure whether you're protected from measles, check in with your family doctor/general practice team.

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## Early learning participation project

In 2016 we partnered with Aranui Community Trust (ACTIS) to support early learning participation. We have worked to find solutions to support a community by promoting early learning in Aranui and surrounding areas. This includes identifying key barriers to participation by working with individuals, existing community groups, parents, community leaders, and champions who are interested in promoting early learning in Aranui.

ACTIS have worked on raising the early learning profile, developed a pamphlet showcasing available ECE services and organised various successful play days which were attended by up to 500 families. ACTIS is also running a regular mothers and baby group that works on championing the benefits of early learning within the community. Currently the group is working on action plans and also run regular activities where they invite parents and children who are currently not participating in an early learning service. The early learning prior participation rate has continued to increase every year since the start of the project.

## Department of Corrections - notifications

We work closely with the Department of Corrections, including with notifying our education community that a person on sentence for child sex offending is, or will, residing in the local area.

The work Corrections and Police do alongside the Ministry of Education and schools is about community safety.

Notification with local education providers is to ensure the safety of children at schools, early learning services and playgroups. This awareness provides a reminder to the community to have conversations with their children and to implement and maintain strategies to keep themselves and each other safe.

Throughout New Zealand there are a number of similar offenders who live in many communities, so this is not a new situation.

The need to notify a community is determined on a case by case basis with the primary consideration being whether it will enhance public safety and/or assist in the management of an individual's risk.

Key points include:

- Corrections make the decision whether to undertake community engagement and notification. The Ministry of Education is not part of this decision making process.
- Corrections is responsible for informing schools, early learning services and playgroups. Personal information is not shared with schools, early learning services or the Ministry of Education. At all times the Privacy Act 1993 is adhered to.
- The Ministry of Education support Corrections by providing information about relevant schools and early learning services if necessary.

Outside of the notification process, schools and early learning services are encouraged to contact NZ Police and Corrections if they have any questions or concerns about this process, or NZ Police if you have concerns about the safety of children in the community.

More information can also be found:

- A very good website about keeping children safe is: <http://www.stopitnow.org/>
- Safeguarding Children Initiative run free seminars and eLearning courses for anyone with an interest in children's safety: <https://safeguardingchildren.org.nz/>
- Information about electronic monitoring: [http://www.corrections.govt.nz/working\\_with\\_offenders/community\\_sentences/being\\_on\\_probation/electronic\\_monitoring.html](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/working_with_offenders/community_sentences/being_on_probation/electronic_monitoring.html)
- Information about working with offenders in community: [http://www.corrections.govt.nz/working\\_with\\_offenders/community\\_sentences/sentences\\_and\\_orders/holding\\_offenders\\_to\\_account.html](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/working_with_offenders/community_sentences/sentences_and_orders/holding_offenders_to_account.html)

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Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss any ideas or issues. You can always call me on 03 378 7345, 0274 200 251 or [email](#) me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Enjoy this fortnight's bulletin.

Mā te wā

**Coralanne Child**

Director of Education for Canterbury | Chatham Islands