



Canterbury and Chatham Islands Regional Newsletter 20 May 2019

Kia ora,

Ararira Springs School and Wigram Primary School both officially opened their new schools this term. The planned openings for term one were postponed following the tragic events in our city on Friday 15 March. Both schools were joined by their communities, neighbouring schools and principals to celebrate and acknowledge the work of many. These events highlight the strength and importance of supporting one another as we know success lies in collaboration with others. Congratulations to everyone involved in these two projects, your foundations are well established for you to build on for your future.

Highfield School in Timaru officially opened their new flexible learning spaces following refurbishment work at the school. A lot of hard work is involved throughout a redevelopment and the planning and commitment required by board, leadership teams and staff is a large undertaking. Now the redevelopment is complete enjoy your new spaces.

Congratulations to Redwood School who celebrated their 50th Anniversary recently. The school celebrated with their community and guests were treated to student performances throughout the weekend. What a wonderful opportunity to not just to look at your history throughout the years but to showcase features of your future focus.

On Friday 3 May '[Who is Hussain?](#)', a global non-profit organisation visited the Christchurch office to present staff with an award in appreciation for the work being done to support our communities. Who is Hussain? acknowledged the hard work and thoughtfulness displayed by our schools, early learning services and Ministry in order to make those affected feel supported after the tragic events that took place Friday 15 March.

They wrote: *"You have shown New Zealand and the whole world your courage and selflessness by giving help to those from whom you had no hope of getting anything back. We deeply feel that if you had not played your vital role in the background to support the victims and Christchurch city, we would not have been able to stand on our feet again as a nation."*



South Australia Public Primary Schools' Music Society, Inc.

[Details can be found here regarding a pen-pal project](#) that South Australia Public Primary Schools' Music Society would like to create with primary school students in Christchurch.

SPACIFICally PACific Polyfest Canterbury 2019

This was another magnificent Polyfest event, with students from seventeen secondary schools taking the stage throughout a wonderful day of celebrations.



This year's event had been postponed due to the tragic events on Friday 15 March, so on Saturday 4 May Pacific cultural groups celebrated their culture and showed that #WeAreOne. It was a massive undertaking by our schools to maintain the focus and momentum, and we appreciate the commitment schools made to see this event happen.

It was an amazing day celebrating our Pacific youth. Spectators were treated to outstanding performances by students who showcased their talent by performing song and dance composed to fit aspects of their respective cultures.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the wonderful SPACPAC Polyfest Canterbury, from the performers, schools and to all the families, friends and staff who supported it.



The SPACIFICally PACIFIC 2019 Speech Competition is being hosted by Hornby High School tomorrow night (Tuesday 21 May), from 5.30 – 8.30pm. Good luck to all involved.

He Huinga Raukura Māori Medium – Wharekura Pathway Expo in Christchurch

Ministry staff had the privilege to be involved with He Huinga Raukura Māori Medium – Wharekura Pathway Expo in Christchurch. This event brought together 110 rangatahi from five wharekura in the South Island to connect with business, trades, government departments and tertiary providers about the possibilities of careers or further study they can enter into once they leave school. They also heard from three speakers about the world of work. One of the young men who spoke was a former student of one of the kura and had just completed his PhD, writing it in te reo Māori. His story was inspirational and the students responded with a powerful haka!

The event reinforced to the rangatahi to stay in school, that their reo is one of the greatest gifts they can offer any employer, work hard and 21st Century New Zealand will be a Māori one, and they can be the leaders of this. The day was full of positive messages, empowerment, karakia, waiata and haka!

He Huinga Raukura was picked up by Māori TV, the link is below

<https://www.maoritelevision.com/news/regional/rapuara-giving-maori-students-window-workforce>

Grow Waitaha Events

Grow Waitaha makes a range of free events available to the community including workshops, forums and communities of practice. Events are designed to invite wider connection across Canterbury with opportunities for school communities to talk to one another, share stories and experiences on what has and hasn't worked and visit sites.

[Catch up on the latest news and register for term two events.](#)

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

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