



## Canterbury and Chatham Islands Regional Newsletter 23 September 2019

### Kia ora

I would like to acknowledge our colleagues at Russley School. Our hearts go out to the staff and students who lost belongings and resources following the fire onsite last week. We are working closely to support the school. Thank you to the wider education community supporting them at this time.

### Tributes of Aroha

To commemorate the six month anniversary of the mosque attacks the Tributes of Aroha display was unveiled at the Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu. It was a beautiful tribute and a reminder of the love and support shown to the city from New Zealand and around the world.

We have a dedicated learning support service manager in the Christchurch office to support children and their families affected by the events of 15 March. If you are worried about anyone in your community do not hesitate to contact us. It is important that you are getting the support you need.

We continue to work with others to ensure appropriate supports are in place for children who require it including regular check-ins with school leaders, cultural advice for migrant and refugee support and linking schools with the right services and agencies.



### Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards

It was a privilege to attend the Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards with Canterbury finalists Halswell Residential College and Waimairi School. The awards celebrate teachers and educators working together and with students, whānau and communities to deliver excellent outcomes for children and young people. It was a wonderful evening celebrating education with the Christchurch teams.

### Spirit of Service awards



I had the pleasure of attending the State Services Commission's Spirit of Service awards with the Mana Ake team and Denise Torrey. Mana Ake was one of 19 shortlisted finalists from 84 entries celebrating outstanding public sector leadership delivering exceptional outcomes for New Zealanders.

Mana Ake is making a real difference for students and their whānau and teachers. Hear what they have to say about [Mana Ake in this video](#).

## School age population and the schooling network

Thank you to the principals and board chairs who attended the presentation on school age population and the schooling network at our office last week. This was a great opportunity to discuss the latest network data as we continue to work with you to provide sufficient space for local students, futureproof the network to allow for forecast growth and maintain a sustainable network of schools across Greater Christchurch. A copy of the [presentation is available here](#).

## Christchurch Primary Schools' Cultural Festival

Congratulations to everyone involved in the 2019 Christchurch Primary Schools' Cultural Festival held at Horncastle Arena. This is always a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the many vibrant cultures in our schools through performance and wearable and visual art. A special thank you to your school staff and community who help make this happen.

## Chatham Islands and Murihiku Polyfest

Our Chatham Islands colleagues were in Christchurch recently where they took the opportunity to catch up with Ministry staff. It was great to hear about what's happening on the island and about Te One School's recent trip to Invercargill for the 10th anniversary of the Murihiku Polyfest in Southland. Their community fundraised to hire a plane to send the students to Invercargill. Congratulations to the school for your performance at Polyfest and your concerts before travelling to Invercargill. Well done to everyone involved.

## West Spreydon School

I would like to let you all know that West Spreydon School's name has officially changed to Te Ara Koropiko West Spreydon School. The school engaged closely with local runanga to decide its new name and it will be exciting to see it incorporated into the design and planning of their rebuild.

## Samoan Community Focus Group Fono

Following earlier Pacific Education Summits, a series of fono were organised to talk about the next steps to design an action plan for Pacific education.

The Canterbury office hosted a Samoan Community Focus Group Fono where we presented the key areas of feedback and areas we would focus on. There was rich discussion about the plan's focus areas, possible outcomes and partnership with the community.



We are working towards ensuring all Pacific learners and families are safe, valued and equipped to achieve their aspirations. We are committed to using the Pacific communities' experiences to shape the wider work in education and local solutions for our local communities and talanoa/korero is where it all begins.

## NCEA change package

We have now held the last of the public meetings on 'Understanding the changes to NCEA' in Canterbury. It has been good to hear people's thoughts about the change package and the meetings have been really well attended - extra workshops were held in Christchurch due to demand.

## 2020 Boma Fellowship

If you're a teacher or education leader at a secondary school in Canterbury, you're eligible to apply to become a Boma NZ Education Fellow.

This free, year-long programme is an amazing opportunity to help 10 Canterbury-based secondary school educators explore ways of bringing exponential thinking, innovative leadership and technology for transformative educational outcomes into their schools and wider communities.

Successful applicants will participate in local, national and international experiences including a trip to the US to visit innovative learning environments. [Apply for the 2020 fellowship here](#). Applications close **30 September**.

## Supernode Education Workshop

[Christchurch forum for talent creation and attraction](#)

ChristchurchNZ invites you to an education focused workshop looking at the future industries of Christchurch and unpacking the skills and knowledge, learning pathways and attraction channels required to ensure our rangatahi are prepared to realise the global opportunities within these industries.

**Date:** Thursday 24 October

**Time:** 9am - 12.30pm *or* 1.30pm - 5pm (*select one*)

**Venue:** Vodafone Xone, 213-221 Tuam Street, Christchurch

Read more about the [Supernode initiative here](#).

For the morning session [register here](#) or for the afternoon session [register here](#).

## School Boards urged to be more proactive – Ombudsman Quarterly Review

Speaking to around 800 people at the School Trustees Association (NZSTA) Annual Conference in July, Chief Ombudsman Peter Boshier reinforced the value of trustees' unpaid work for their schools and communities, and emphasised the value of a proactive approach to sharing information with those communities.

"The OIA is not merely a bureaucratic exercise. Properly used, it's an excellent tool for enhancing the reputations of boards of trustees, by showing their processes will withstand public scrutiny," he said.

"For example, some boards routinely post their meeting minutes on the school website. I would urge all boards to consider a model that promotes this proactive release of information," he said.

[Read his full speech here: Creating Educational Success: the next 30 years \[PDF\]](#)

[Click here for Ombudsman guidance: The OIA and school boards of trustees \[PDF\]](#)

## Lockdown review presentations

We would like to invite principals and board chairs to attend a presentation and discussion on the Canterbury schools and early learning services 15 March [Lockdown Review](#) [PDF], released on 20 August. As you know, we commissioned the review to ensure we identify any opportunities for future national preparedness.

As well as a presentation, this event will be a great opportunity to discuss outcomes identified in the report and actions to take.

Details of the presentations are below. If you have questions, please contact [Jennifer.Margaret@education.govt.nz](mailto:Jennifer.Margaret@education.govt.nz)

### Christchurch:

As the maximum capacity in this room is 120 we will **run the same presentation over two evenings.**

**Date:** Tuesday 29 October

**Time:** 5pm – 6pm

**Venue:** Ground floor, Ministry of Education, 48 Hereford Street

**RSVP:** [Events.Christchurch@education.govt.nz](mailto:Events.Christchurch@education.govt.nz) by 18 October

**Date:** Wednesday 30 October

**Time:** 5pm – 5pm

**Venue:** Ground floor, Ministry of Education, 48 Hereford Street

**RSVP:** [Events.Christchurch@education.govt.nz](mailto:Events.Christchurch@education.govt.nz) by 18 October

### South Canterbury:

**Date:** Thursday 31 October

**Time:** 5pm – 6pm

**Venue:** The Landing Conference Centre, 2 George Street, Timaru

**RSVP:** [Events.Christchurch@education.govt.nz](mailto:Events.Christchurch@education.govt.nz) by 18 October

## Kaiapoi High School's new gymnasium

It was great to attend the opening ceremony for Kaiapoi High School's new gymnasium, to celebrate this milestone with their community and see how much work has been completed as they near the end of their major redevelopments. Congratulations to everyone involved in this project.

## Westpac Champion – business awards

I attended the Westpac Champion awards last week where Cholmondeley Children's Centre was a finalist in the Champion Community Impact award. This awards recognises the positive impact not-for-profit community organisations have, the exceptional work and the importance of their roles in providing help and support to those in need in Canterbury. It is great to see your work being acknowledged

## Property – education briefs

A learning environment is not just about property. It's about the social, pedagogical, and physical elements in the whole school aligning for positive educational outcomes. When learning environments are well designed they can contribute to success and wellbeing at school.

The biggest driver in creating new learning environments is the school itself. Each school develops an education brief based on its specific vision for teaching and learning that takes into account the needs of the community and vision for learning in the future.

We do not insist that teaching spaces be designed one way over another. We provide you with support to design spaces that support you to deliver your chosen teaching practices effectively. Part of this extensive support ensures a school's vision is translated into the designs of the property.

The education brief is paired with a technical brief (describing the budget, the amount of space to be delivered, technical requirements in terms of acoustics, lighting, etc.) and drives the design and construction of the project.

This means that you determine how learning spaces are configured to meet your needs.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss any ideas or issues. If you have a story you would like shared in the bulletin please send it to me. You can always call me on 03 378 7345, 0274 200 251 or email [Coralanne.Child@education.govt.nz](mailto:Coralanne.Child@education.govt.nz). I look forward to hearing from you.

Enjoy the last bulletin for Term 3.

Mā te wā

**Coralanne Child**

Director of Education for Canterbury | Chatham Islands