

Ministry bulletin for

SCHOOL LEADERS

He pitopito kōrero

Index

Critical need to know and action

1. **IES updates** on the Joint Initiative, IES chair appointment, Communities of Schools guides/resources and the Teacher-led Innovation Fund. [Read more...](#)
2. [Industrial relations circular about the initiation of bargaining for the renewal of the Secondary Teachers' Collective Agreement](#). Boards and principals must let any employees who may be covered by this collective agreement know about the upcoming bargaining. Further information on the bargaining is available from NZSTA.
3. Following our item about an **approved electrical contractors list** in the last Bulletin, a number of readers raised concerns with us. [Read more...](#)
4. **Vulnerable Children Act implementation - safety checking timeframe**. In the last Bulletin we updated you about Part 3 of the Vulnerable Children Act 2014 (safety checking) coming into force from 1 July 2015. We apologise for including the following statement in the first version of the article. [Read more...](#)
5. The Ministry, Education Payroll Limited, and NZSTA are working together to make a number of changes to **employee leave management** this year. [Read more...](#)
6. A new **Secondary and Area School Groundstaff Collective Agreement** has been ratified by union members and is effective from 1 May 2015. Members of the Amalgamated Workers Union NZ Southern Incorporated, the Northern Amalgamated Workers Union Inc and the Central Amalgamated Workers Union Inc are automatically covered by the terms and conditions in the new

collective agreement including the increased pay rates. If you have employees who are not union members, then you will need to update their individual employment agreement to access the new pay rates. [Read about the settlement and what action schools need to take in the Ministry's circular.](#)

Heads up

1. **Special Education update:** Engagement on the proposed improvements to special education is underway and we are already hearing productive discussions. [Read more...](#)
2. Are you meeting your legal requirements - Do you have a **Smokefree sign** at the entrance to your school? [Read more...](#)
3. ERO has released a [national evaluation report on careers education and guidance](#). This report focuses on good practice and showcases 10 secondary schools with high quality careers education.
4. We have published an [Insights for Teachers on NZ Student Self-Belief and Confidence, and Implications for Achievement](#). This short document examines how student self-belief, and related issues such as anxiety, is related to maths performance.
5. [Primary Principals' and Teachers' Study Awards](#), [Primary Teachers' Sabbaticals](#) and [Primary Principals' Sabbaticals](#) applications are now open and close **6 July**.
6. [Study awards and sabbaticals for secondary and area school teachers and principals](#) are now open and close **8 June**.
7. [Register now for free Overall Teacher Judgement workshops in reading and writing during Term 2](#)
8. An online group has been created to facilitate sector-led discussion around the ongoing strategy and use of

Student Management Systems [Read more...](#)

9. An **ICT survey** will be sent out to approximately 600 schools later this week. [Read more...](#)
10. This month schools will receive three **School Journals** – one at each of the levels 2, 3, and 4. [Read more...](#)
11. Thanks to schools and kura for **Fields of Remembrance** as well as the sponsors who made it possible. [Read more...](#)
12. Entries are open for [The Challenge 2015](#), a multimedia competition open to Year 7-13 students of Māori descent. Closes **5pm, 3 July**.
13. Read the latest **Vocational Pathways updates** [on Level 1 & 2 Refinement](#) and [Level 3+ Development](#). Draft pathways will be released for consultation on the [Youth Guarantee website](#) near the end of May.

General

1. [Have you joined SIEBA?](#)

List of upcoming Ministry communications

[Click here to open the word document](#)

List of education-related websites

[Click here to see 30 education-related websites](#)

Regional news

Tai Tokerau

No news this issue. [Email Hira Gage](#) anytime.

Auckland

No news this issue. [Email Kevin Emery](#) anytime.

Waikato

[Regional update from Paula Rawiri](#)

Bay of Plenty, Rotorua, Taupo

[Regional update from Ezra Schuster](#)

Hawke's Bay, Gisborne

No news this issue. [Email Marilyn Scott](#) anytime.

Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatu

[Regional update from Jann Marshall](#)

Wellington

No news this issue. [Email Pauline Cleaver](#) anytime.

Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast

[Regional update from Erika Ross](#)

Canterbury

[Regional update from Coralanne Child](#)

Otago, Southland

[Regional update from Julie Anderson](#)

Events

[Click here to see events](#) (no change since last week)

Newsletters

No new newsletters this week

Early Learning Bulletin

[Issue #3](#)

Critical need to know and action

IES updates

Joint Initiative

The Ministry and the NZEI are continuing their joint work on collaboration, transitions, career pathways and resourcing work streams. Constructive progress is being made and the working party will report back by the end of this month. [Further information can be found here](#)

Investing in Educational Success Chair appointed

Prue Kelly, former principal of Wellington High School, has been appointed the chair of the Investing in Educational Success, New Appointments National Panel.

[Read more about this appointment on the Beehive website](#)

Communities of Schools Guides/Resources

To help support schools in establishing a Community of Schools, the Ministry along with PPTA and NZSTA have produced a series of resources.

The following guides and resources are available on the [Ministry's website](#):

A Guide for Schools and Kura, Tips and Starters, Guide to Writing a Memorandum of Agreement, and a Role Selection and Appointment Information Pack.

Teacher-led Innovation Fund

Applications for the Teacher-led Innovation Fund have now closed. The next funding round opens in November 2015 and round three opens in November 2016.

Read more about [Teacher-led Innovation Fund and the Selection Panel here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Approved electrical contractors list

Following our item about an approved electrical contractors list in the last Bulletin, a number of readers raised concerns with us. We appreciate your feedback and have taken this on board, and we are currently working on ways to improve the list.

We will update you again when we have further information available. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments regarding the list, please email networkupgrades@education.govt.nz.

[Back to top](#)

Vulnerable Children Act implementation – safety checking timeframe

In the last Bulletin we updated you about Part 3 of the Vulnerable Children Act 2014 (safety checking) coming into force from 1 July 2015.

We apologise for including the following statement in the first version of the article; *“Once the employer is aware that someone has a conviction for one of these [prohibited] offences, they must suspend them from all core worker duties”*. We removed this

statement as it implied that this restriction would come into effect for all core workers from 1 July 2015. This is not the case.

The correct position is that:

- From 1 July 2015, schools, kura and ECE services will not be able to employ new staff in a core worker position if that person has a conviction for a specified offence, unless that person has received an exemption.
- For those already in the workforce, this restriction takes effect from 1 July 2016, a year after the regulations take effect.

We will keep you updated on implementing the Vulnerable Children Act as more information becomes available.

If you have any questions please email our team at ssci.programme@education.govt.nz

[Back to top](#)

School employee leave management

As part of an ongoing commitment to improve services to schools, the Ministry, Education Payroll Limited, and the New Zealand School Trustees Association are working together to make a number of changes to employee leave management this year. The Novopay system will be enhanced to improve the way sick and annual leave entitlements are calculated, new leave balance reporting will be provided, and new guidelines and training will be made available. In support of these activities, we will be engaging with schools to ensure leave balances are correct.

These changes have been discussed with sector organisations and we have held workshops with a number of schools to get their input into how these activities are best managed with schools.

Principals will receive an email in the next week explaining these changes in more detail, followed by more comprehensive communications and guidelines.

[Back to top](#)

Critical need to know and action item 2 and 6 are in full in the index

Heads up

Special Education Update – engagement under way

Engagement on the proposed improvements to special education is under way and we are already hearing productive discussions.

Over 100 meetings are being held around the country during May with early childhood providers, parents, whānau, fanau (Pasifika parents), schools and education and disability sector partners. Your views will inform the high-level design of future improvements to the education system for children and young people with special education needs.

We've had a good response from the meetings so far and expect a high level of engagement to continue.

As a reminder of what the [Special Education Update](#) is about, broadly the work will focus on:

- a simpler funding system and easier access to services
- coordinated and consistent support, from early childhood to school and tertiary
- more involvement for schools and parents in decision-making
- improving information so we know how well the system is working.

We're interested in the whole of the education system, not just the Ministry's responsibilities.

In the coming weeks we'll report back on themes emerging from these discussion forums.

[Back to top](#)

Are you meeting your legal requirements - do you have a Smokefree Sign at the entrance to your school?

How do I order a sign?

If you don't have smokefree signs at your school entrances, **order your free green metal signs** from the [Smokefree website](#). For other smokefree signs or how to make your own, visit the [Smokefree schools signage page](#).

A recently published study by the University of Otago found that smokefree signage was absent from many North Island schools - a legal requirement. The study involving 50 lower North Island primary and secondary schools found that a third had no smokefree signage. Of the schools that did have signage, only half had a smokefree sign at their main entrance. Given these signs are a legal requirement, these findings are concerning.

What does the Smoke-free Environments Act (Act) cover?

The Act regulates:

- smokefree workplaces and public areas
- marketing, advertising and promotion of tobacco products
- monitors and regulates the presence of harmful constituents in tobacco products and tobacco smoke.

What do schools and early childhood education and care centres have to do?

The Act specially requires some places to be smokefree at all times including the buildings and grounds of schools and early childhood education and care centres.

The Act also requires a notice, stating that smoking within the premises is forbidden at all times, is prominently displayed at, or immediately inside, every entrance to the premises and every outer entrance to every building or enclosed area forming part of the premises (excluding areas not normally used by young people, temporary in nature, or used for emergencies only).

Signage is a legal requirement and important for reminding role models, such as teachers, caregivers and visitors, that smoking is not allowed and not what we, as a country, want for our next generation especially as we aim for a smokefree country by 2025.

The Manager of the premises (principal and board) is legally required to ensure the signs are in place and that no smoking occurs within the grounds, including on weekends.

How else can we support a Smokefree New Zealand by 2025?

A smokefree school is more than just a sign on the gate; if you want more information on what you can do visit the [Smokefree schools website](#)

[Back to top](#)

Student Management Systems in the compulsory sector – strategy discussion group

An online group has been created to facilitate sector-led discussion around the ongoing strategy and use of Student Management Systems (SMS).

The group will use Loomio, an online discussion and decision-making tool, to work collaboratively with the project team.

The SMS project is critical to establishing a shared vision of data that follows the student, is easy to find, accurate, up-to-date and can be reflected back to students, teachers, school management teams, parents and whānau.

Participants in the discussion group currently represent primary, secondary and intermediate schools, SMS vendors and education consultants.

If you would like to be part of the discussion group or kept informed of progress around the initiative, please email delta.info@education.govt.nz and let us know if you have a particular area of interest.

[Back to top](#)

ICT in schools survey

By the end of the year, all state and state-integrated schools will have received their School Network Upgrade Project upgrade and we are now looking at how we can help you maintain and get the most out of your new ICT infrastructure.

We are keen to understand more about schools' current ICT needs and expenditure, and also what you think these will be in future. So we will be sending a survey out to approximately 600 schools later this week. If your school has been selected, we would greatly appreciate your participation. This will provide us with valuable insight into the ICT products and services schools are investing in, and the areas where you think we could provide further support.

This survey follows on from last year's ICT infrastructure survey and will address in more detail some of the areas covered by that survey.

Completing the survey itself should take between 15-30 minutes. However, before you do this, you will need to gather financial information relating to ICT at your school from the past two years. Thanks for your help with this.

[Back to top](#)

School Journals coming in May

This month schools will receive three School Journals – one at each of the levels 2, 3, and 4.

[PDFs of all texts, teacher support materials, and audio support for the level 2 journal are available here.](#)

Highlights include Chris Szekely's first *School Journal* story "Jump!" and poet Selina Powell's "Jump", both of which are in the level 2 journal and are thematically related –

overcoming fear. The article about unicycles, “Just One Wheel”, adds a third perspective to the theme.

Look out also for the stunning photographs in “Underground Explorers”, an article in the level 4 journal that follows a group of cavers in the South Island’s Bulmer Cavern. There’s also a poem by the Auckland-based performer Selina Tusitala Marsh and stories by Bernard Beckett, Sarah Penwarden and more.

Among other items, the level 3 journal contains three pieces (a story, poem, and article) that explore New Zealand’s goldmining past, paying particular attention to the immigrants’ experience. This is a great starting place for schools to investigate the history of their own communities.

[Back to top](#)

Fields of Remembrance

Thanks to schools and kura for Fields of Remembrance

The Fields of Remembrance Trust and the Ministry of Education would like to thank schools and kura for setting up their own Field of Remembrance and conducting services of commemoration in the week preceding Anzac Day.

It has been a delight to view photos and media reports of Fields in schools all around the country. You can view Fields of Remembrance set up in schools and kura on the [World War I government education website](#).

Sponsors of The Fields of Remembrance - Thanks

Two small owner/operator businesses in particular – PSP Limited and Digital Factory – donated an extraordinary amount of time and resources for the production of 80,000 crosses, storyboards, more than 163,000 poppy and name stickers, and 12,500 commemoration posters. And so that the crosses could stay together through any kind of weather, worldwide company 3M donated an adhesive product.

This massive contribution was done alongside these companies’ business as usual work.

Dean Hodgson, Finance Director for PSP Limited, the company that supplies the two components of the Fields of Remembrance crosses, also wanted to ensure New Zealand schools and kura were acknowledged for setting their Fields up.

“We have had some wonderful feedback from various schools that seem to have really embraced the project. It was great when travelling up north over the weekend to see crosses in the grounds of some small country schools,” he said.

[You can read the Education Gazette article featuring the sponsors and what the Fields of Remembrance meant to them here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Heads up items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12 and 13 are in full in the index

General

Have you joined SIEBA?

[The Schools International Education Business Association](#), is a newly-formed school sector-led organisation with a vision to lead, connect and grow schools' international education business. John van der Zwan, International Director at Waihi College, has recently been appointed as the interim Executive Director. Sign up by **22 May** and be eligible to nominate someone to the board, or by 5 June to vote at the inaugural AGM on 23 June.

[Back to top](#)

REGIONAL NEWS



TAI TOKERAU | Hira Gage

No news this issue.

Email me anytime: hira.gage@education.govt.nz or call 09 436 8914.

[Back to top](#)



AUCKLAND | Kevin Emery

No news this issue.

Email me anytime: kevin.emery@education.govt.nz or call 09 632 9333.

[Back to top](#)

Contact us at: bulletin@education.govt.nz

+64 4 463 8919

www.education.govt.nz



WAIKATO | Paula Rawiri

Kia ora koutou i runga i ngā ahuatanga o te wā

Special Education Update

The Special Education Update workshops have started here in the Waikato. These are an important opportunity for the Ministry of Education to hear from you about proposed improvements to the education system for children and young people with special education needs. I would like to encourage you to attend a workshop. Please note we are hosting workshops in Hamilton, Thames and Te Kuiti. The dates and venues are as follows:

Workshop Focus Group	Date of Forum	Time of Forum	Venue
ECE Leaders	Tuesday 12 May	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm.	Ministry of Education, 19 Home Straight, Hamilton
Kōhanga Reo, Kura and Wharekura, Māori medium and Dual Medium settings	Thursday 14 May	11:00 am - 1:00 pm.	Ministry of Education, 19 Home Straight, Hamilton
School Leaders	Thursday 14 May	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Ministry of Education, 19 Home Straight, Hamilton
ECE and School Leaders (Combined)	Tuesday 19 May	2.00 pm - 4:00 pm	School Pavilion, Te Kuiti High School, Hospital Road, Te Kuiti
ECE and School Leaders (Combined)	Thursday, 21 May	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Library, Thames High School Library, Sealey Street, Thames
ECE Leaders	Tuesday 26 May	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Ministry of Education, 19 Home Straight, Hamilton

Whānau engaged in supporting learning

In my meetings with many of you, I've had the chance to hear and see firsthand some of the fantastic work you are doing to engage parents, families and whānau in learning. I also hear from a few of you some of the real challenges that you are presented with as well. Over the course of this term when we visit you, we are interested in what you are doing to support parents, families and whānau engagement in learning. We know having whānau engaged and supporting their child's learning is a critical ingredient to success.

Below are links to information which you might find helpful in this respect.

- [Know me before you teach me](#) – Education Gazette, v 94, no.5, 23 March 2015
- [Education for Māori: relationships between schools and whanau](#) – Office of the Auditor General, Feb 2015
- [Reviewing your school-whanau partnerships](#). (You can download the Ruia Partnerships self review tool at the bottom of the page.)

I would also be pleased to hear about any successes or challenges you've had in your school or kura that supports this important element of learning. You can contact me at paula.rawiri@education.govt.nz

Vocational Pathways

A session is being hosted at the Ministry of Education offices in Hamilton on **Monday 25 May from 9.30am- 12 noon** on Vocational Pathways with secondary school principals from the Waikato region within the ART programme. Attendance is limited to the principal and one other representative from each secondary school. Kelvin Whiting, principal of Hillcrest High School has agreed to chair the meeting.

The key focus is to share initiatives that your school is implementing to support achievement and in particular to raise the achievement of priority learners. You are encouraged to bring examples of programmes of learning, including standards being taught to share with the group.

For further information or to RSVP please contact Christine Pritchard at Christine.pritchard@education.govt.nz **by Thursday 21 May.**

Overall Teacher Judgment workshops: English medium

In order to continue to build the assessment capability of teachers in English medium schools and following the success of the Overall Teacher Judgment (OTJ) workshop series in 2014, we are providing another series of [OTJ workshops during 2015](#). The workshops in the Waikato are as follows:

Area	Date	Facilitators
Thames	21 May	Brenda Weal Kay Penniall
Te Kuiti	3 June	Brenda Weal Anne Grady
Putaruru	4 June	Brenda Weal TBC
Hamilton West	8 June	Anne Grady Ruth Tate

[Visit the CPL website](#) to register for one of these workshops. To ensure this support is available to as many schools as possible, registrations will be limited to two participants per school.

The overall aim of the workshop series is to further support teachers to strengthen their capability to make valid and reliable OTJs about learner progress and achievement, in relation to the curriculum National Standards.

Following participation in the workshops, participants will be more confident to make valid and reliable OTJs of students' progress and achievement using quality moderation practices. The workshops for English medium schools will also support the implementation of the PaCT, by introducing teachers to the benefits of knowing and understanding the aspect frameworks and illustrations.

Comprehensive online support will be available on the [CPL website](#) to enable schools to engage in follow-up activities.

And finally...

Yes, you are right we have had an email change. This was introduced recently for all Ministry of Education email addresses. You can still get us using the old address but you might like to update your contacts with this one: paula.rawiri@education.govt.nz. We are putting education at the heart of everything.

Noho ora mai
Paula

[Back to top](#)



BAY OF PLENTY, ROTORUA, TAUPO | Ezra Schuster

Kia ora

I hope all mums had a great Mother's Day yesterday and you were spoilt by family and loved ones. There are a few notices and good news stories this fortnight, if you want to discuss anything in the Bulletin feel free to contact me directly on ezra.schuster@education.govt.nz or call me on 027 296 8196.

Graduation at Awanuiārangi

I had the privilege of attending the Te Whare Wānanga Awanuiārangi graduation on Friday 1 May with my two Wellington colleagues Mahina Melbourne and John MacCormick, on behalf of our deputy secretary Dr Graham Stoop.

It was a wonderful celebration of academic excellence but also whānau support, personal commitment, sacrifice and hard work. The graduation also marked a record number of postgraduate awards including 6 PhDs and over 20 masters and postgraduate students, notwithstanding hundreds of undergraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates – a reminder that you don't have to leave the region to receive a world-class education.

It seemed the whole of Whakatane was out to support the graduates and I was particularly moved by the number of young mums graduating with whānau cheering them on. Congratulations also to Louw Olivier, principal of Edgecumbe College who received his Masters on Friday. My thanks to acting CEO Prof Wiremu Doherty and senior manager Rosina Taniwha for the invitation and I look forward to working closely with the wānanga in the upcoming months.



Dr Paul Kayes congratulating one his Masters students



Principal Louw Olivier amongst the crowd

Powering Up Pasifika achievement in Rotorua

Last Wednesday (6 May) up to 40 parents, students and children gathered for one of the Power Stations at Sunset Primary in Rotorua. The Power Stations are part of PowerUp, an exciting Ministry initiative in partnership with the Rotorua Pacific Islands Charitable Trust to raise Pasifika student achievement and family/fanau engagement.

It was a great event and some of my Ministry colleagues from Waikato and Wellington were on hand to see the Power Station in action as well as staff from Waiariki Polytechnic to promote a tailored NCEA programme. Sylvia Taupuke is the PowerUP coordinator and is doing a great job liaising between schools and the Pasifika communities around Rotorua but we know there are other Pasifika families and students who can benefit from PowerUP. If you have Pasifika students or you are interested in how you can better engage with your Pasifika families to raise achievement please email Sylvia at rotorupacificislandstrust@hotmail.com

I've also attached a flyer for senior Pasifika students for the Waiariki Polytechnic NCEA programme.

- [View Pasifika NCEA level 2 flyer](#)



Primary students with one of the teachers



Kelvin Taupuke facilitating the parent group



Pasifika senior students in their group with a coordinator

IES and Communities of Schools

Following on from the last Bulletin we continue to receive a lot of interest and we have begun working with the five communities announced by the Minister last month. Please email me if you wish to discuss IES and/or becoming a Community of Schools.

Challenges and Opportunities in Education seminars

On Friday 8 May, we had the first of this exciting series of seminars for the Tauranga and Western Bay of Plenty. I will post some photos and comments in the next Bulletin. We still have some spaces available for the next three seminars and I encourage you to attend these. If you would like to attend please email Alison.jones@education.govt.nz

Date	Area	Venue
Tuesday 19 May	Eastern BOP	Awakeri Events Centre State Highway 30 Awakeri, Whakatane
Thursday 21 May	Rotorua	Rotorua District Council Chambers, Huapapa Street, Rotorua
Friday 22 May	Taupo	Great Lake Centre East Wing/Conservatory 5 Story Place, Taupo

Special Education Update

As mentioned in the last Bulletin, the Special Education Update is one of our priorities and the opportunity to contribute and engage in how the system can better support children and students with special learning needs is well underway. The response from schools, kura, centres, kohanga and parents has been overwhelming with the Tauranga event at capacity.

If you missed the Tauranga meeting, below are the dates, times and venues for the remaining engagements which I encourage you or your staff to attend. Please email Janice.fernando@education.govt.nz if you would like to attend.

Date and time	Area	Venue
Monday 18 May 12pm - 2.30 pm (Start with lunch 12pm)	Taupo	Waiora House, Kowhai Room, Ruapehu Wing 129 Spa Road Taupo
Wednesday 20 May 12pm - 2.30pm (Start with lunch 12pm)	Rotorua	Ministry of Education Kauri Room, Level 3 1144 Pukaki Street Rotorua
Monday 25 May 12pm - 2.30pm (Start with lunch 12pm)	Whakatane	Eastbay REAP Upstairs Conference Room 21 Pyne Street Whakatane

Ngā mihi
Ezra

[Back to top](#)



HAWKE'S BAY, GISBORNE | Marilyn Scott

No news this issue.

Email me anytime: Marilyn.scott@education.govt.nz or call 06 833 6898

[Back to top](#)



TARANAKI, WHANGANUI, MANAWATU | Jann Marshall

Kia ora

Ministerial Regional Cross Sector Forum

On Wednesday 6 May, we hosted leaders from across Taranaki, Whanganui and Manawatu to provide collaborative cross-sector leadership and advice on how to raise achievement for five out of five learners.

Representatives on the forum included several Mayors, iwi, CEOs from UCOL and Massey University, Child Youth and Family, Police, Chamber of Commerce, Pasifika community leaders, as well our ECE, school and kura leaders/principals. [You can read more about the cross sector forum here.](#)

Our goals for 2015 are:

- To establish a new system-wide network in our region to provide a foundation for a strong and connected regional education system.
- To gain a better system-wide understanding of the education challenges and opportunities in our region
- To have an improved flow of information between the sector, the Ministry, the Minister and other agencies
- To have a more informed Ministry, Minister, sector and stakeholders

We'll meet two more times this year with a focus on local needs, local issues and local solutions to raise achievement in our region. In between the forums, we've encouraged members to meet, network, support each other and follow up on actions or decisions.

PACT tool

We have noticed that many of you have started using the PACT tool and would like to remind you that we are here to support and help you. Get in touch with your senior advisor if you have any questions.

Overall Teacher Judgement workshops

The Overall Teacher Judgements (OTJ) workshops are being facilitated through the Consortium of Professional Learning during terms two and three and will be offered in the following areas:

Location	Date	Venue	Facilitation team
Feilding	28 May	The Manfeild Events Centre	Rita Palmer, Ben Laybourn
Hawera	3 June	The Hub	Cath Runga, Anne Purves
Waitara	4 June	Waiau Country Estate	Rita Palmer, Anne Purves
Whanganui	5 June	TBC	Cath Runga, Anne Purves

The overall aim of the workshop series is to further support teachers to strengthen their capability to make valid and reliable OTJ about learner progress and achievement.

[Register for workshops here.](#)

Reminder about the Special Education Update forums

In the last Bulletin, I included the dates and venues for the Special Education Update forums and an invitation was emailed to you at the start of the term. Please extend this invitation to your board.

We need to hear your ideas and to do this we are engaging with early childhood providers, parents, whānau, schools and education and disability sector partners during April and May. This engagement will inform the high-level design of future improvements to the education system for children and young people with special education needs, and form the basis for ongoing engagement as we work through the special education update.

The times and venues are as follows:

- **Manawatu – 20 May, 1pm-3pm**, Reformed Church, 541 Ruahine Street, Hokowhitu, Palmerston North
- **Taranaki – 21 May, 1pm-3pm**, Ministry of Education, L4 PWC Centre, 54 Gill Street, New Plymouth
- **Whanganui – 25 May, 1pm-3pm**, Ministry of Education, 93 Ingestre St, Whanganui

Please contact me on 021 229 7685 or email: jann.marshall@education.govt.nz if you wish to discuss any issues or ideas.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Ngā mihi
Jann

[Back to top](#)



WELLINGTON | Pauline Cleaver

No news this issue.

Email me anytime: Pauline.cleaver@education.govt.nz or call 04 463 8668.

[Back to top](#)



NELSON, MARLBOROUGH, WEST COAST | Erika Ross

Kia ora

The Centenary Commemoration of World War 1 and the services held on Anzac Day were well attended across the country and in our region. I received a lot of very positive feedback from parents and members of the public about the way schools recognised the event and especially about the crosses that schools had on display. Some of those who gave me feedback were very emotional and even moved to tears by your efforts.

Four new Communities of Schools

Congratulations to the four newly approved Communities of Schools: Kaikoura, Westland, Greymouth and Top of the South 5 Area schools. We look forward to supporting you as you develop your achievement plans.

OTJs and PACT

A number of workshops are available in the region for schools to get further support in making OTJs. If you are interested [visit the CPL website to register](#).

Remember, a number of principals already using PaCT are happy to talk to you about how they are using the tool. If you are interested [email the PaCT team](#) and they will put you in touch with a principal who is happy to share their experiences.

For further information and to view available resources, check out the [PaCT website](#). You can also [email the support team](#) who can provide step-by-step help.

Congratulations to Sun Smart Blenheim schools

The Blenheim region is leading the country in protecting its students from sunburn and skin cancer – 85 per cent of Blenheim schools are SunSmart schools. These schools have a SunSmart policy in place which provides a safe environment, curriculum content, and teaches/models SunSmart behaviour. Visit the [Sunsmart schools website](#) to find inquiry-based learning plans and cool things to do with your students.

Special Education Update forums

There was a lot of interest in the forums from all parties – many thanks for your input and feedback. As outlined at the meetings, this information will now be collated by national office and will inform the design of improvement proposals. A summary of the feedback will be made available to attendees.

Ngā mihi, Erika Ross, Director of Education

[Back to top](#)



CANTERBURY | Coralanne Child

Canterbury Regional News
11 May 2015 | Issue 7

Kia ora

It is always a privilege to host the Minister of Education in our region and to have the opportunity to showcase all the wonderful work that is happening in Canterbury. The Minister was here on Friday 1 May to open the Rolleston Christian School as well as meetings with Hornby High, Ladbrooks School and Te Waka Unua. The Minister was impressed with the great work our schools are doing to positively influence the lives of every student.

Since the last newsletter many principals have been in touch regarding PaCT. New Zealand has a model of assessment and evaluation and the purpose of assessment for learning is to use the information to give feedback to students about their learning and to plan next learning goals with them. Effective assessment for learning occurs when information is used well and informs teaching and learning. To be effective, standards-referenced assessment must be valid (i.e. draw from a range of information) and teacher judgements consistent. The PaCT has been developed to support dependable (valid and consistent) teacher judgements of student achievement and progress.

I have put some more information in regarding PaCT and if you wish to talk to a principal who is already using the tool, the PaCT team have a number of principals who can talk to you about it. The PaCT team looks forward to working with you in implementing the PaCT in your school. Please do not hesitate to contact PaCT.feedback@education.govt.nz if there is anything you need to know about signing up to use the tool.

Progress and Consistency Tool (PaCT) Support

PaCT is a tool that supports teachers as they make judgments about students' progress and achievement in relation to the New Zealand Curriculum [National Standards](#). The PaCT helps to give teachers, school leaders, school boards, parents, and whānau confidence that Overall Teacher Judgments are dependable and consistent. Interesting and important things you should know about the PaCT:

PaCT principals

A number of principals from schools using the PaCT have agreed to be available to talk to other principals interested in using the PaCT. Please [email the PaCT team](#) if you would like us to connect an interested school with a principal who is already using the tool in their school.

Sign Up Support

Did you know that the PaCT programme has a support team and can provide step-by-step help to schools to sign up and set up the PaCT? If you would like help in signing/setting up [email the PaCT team](#)

If you are interested in learning more or using the PaCT, [the PaCT website](#) has some great resources including introductory clip and packs. It also contains interactive training modules, a User Guide and Good Practice Guide, as well as e-learning modules and signup documents.

Learning Community Cluster (LCC) Success Story template

The success of our LCCs in Canterbury has drawn the attention of our sector colleagues outside the region. For this reason we have decided to publish case studies of the projects and other pieces of work your LCCs are doing. This will allow you to share successes and challenges with others across the country.

These will be short articles on project work that has been completed or is underway that highlights the successes and challenges faced by your cluster and will give ideas to others on the kind of work they may wish to do. Your stories will also be a great way to support other clusters to identify and apply solutions to similar situations.

Please email Tim.Maxwell@education.govt.nz if you have any questions. We will let you know when these have been processed and available for use. We look forward to receiving your stories, [view the Learning Community Cluster template here](#).

Collaborative initiatives making a difference

School and ECE teachers collaborate in shared professional development and learning

The Whakaraupo Learning Community Cluster, comprising of schools and early childhood services from Diamond Harbour, Governors Bay and Lyttelton, have been working hard to include their ECEs in as many ventures as possible. Both Diamond Harbour and Lyttelton schools have Kidsfirst Kindergartens in close proximity, and interaction between pupils and staff is actively promoted.

All staff from both Kidsfirst services attended the cluster teacher only day 'Values Workshop' held at the end of the Term 1 break, where collaboration was encouraged through a 'Speed Dating Whakaraupo Style' activity. This facilitated lots of fast and furious networking! Diamond Harbour Kidsfirst's head teacher, Becs Thomas, commented 'Sharing professional development with our neighbours has been great, we get to build and cement relationships within our community; most of our tamariki will go to the local school, so having a great working relationship with not just the new entrant teacher but all of the school community, means we each get to appreciate the culture and curriculum through which our children will move'.

A buddy system is also in place where the Year 7 and 8 pupils from Diamond Harbour School spend quality time with children attending Kidsfirst Diamond Harbour, embracing 'whanaungatanga', central to the philosophy of both the early childhood centre and the school.

Whakaraupo LCC has also donated two iPads each to the other ECE partners, BusyC's in Lyttelton and Diamond Harbour Playcentre, to enable staff at these centres to enhance their learning with digital technology and enable them to work collaboratively online with the schools. As LCC leader Tracey Janes says, 'so much of our school communication and learning is now online, it seemed appropriate - and necessary - to give our early childhood colleagues the opportunity to work alongside us with this'.

To enable us to share your projects please email: amanda.dowling@education.govt.nz

We are always looking at ways to showcase the great work you do. If you have any video clips of your school we would love you to send them to us so we can play them in our reception.

We would appreciate if you could print this newsletter and place it in your staff room.

Ma te wa,
Coralanne Child
Director of Education for Canterbury

[Back to top](#)



OTAGO, SOUTHLAND | Julie Anderson

Kia ora koutou and warm Pasifika greetings

It has been good to meet with principals in South Otago, Central Otago and Dunedin over the last few weeks, as part of the Special Education Update engagement process, and I look forward to meeting with the Southland, Gore and North Otago groups over the next two weeks. The dates, times and venues for the remaining meetings are in the table below. Thank you for your willingness to engage with the issues and share some innovative and improvement-focused thinking that could support the progress and achievement of our students with special educational needs. I will keep you informed and continue discussions as the update process progresses.

Description of attendees	Date of Forum	Time of Forum	Venue
Southland principals, BOT and ECE	Tuesday 12 May	10.30-12noon	MOE Office, 190 Forth St, Invercargill
Gore Area principals, BOT and ECE	Tuesday 12 May	2.00-3.30pm	East Gore School Community Centre
Dunedin ECE	Monday 18 May	4.00-5.30pm	MOE Office, 414 Moray Pl, Dunedin

North Otago principals, BOT and ECE	Thursday 21 May	11.00-12.30pm	Weston School, Oamaru
--	-----------------	---------------	--------------------------

Communities of Schools

The Lower Mataura Valley (LMV) has been approved as a Community of Schools as part of the second tranche. We now have 220 schools and approx 84,000 students in approved communities nationwide. Both the LMV and the Southern Area Schools communities are progressing their plans to develop their achievement challenges.

Some examples of the broad foci of the challenges at this stage are: Māori student achievement year 5-8 in writing and mathematics, drop off in achievement at transition points especially Year 6-7, increase the number of NCEA Merit and Excellence endorsements, Vocational Pathways endorsements at NCEA Level 2, and improved achievement in mathematical problem solving as part of a focus on mathematics progressions through the year 0-13 pipeline.

Broad Bay School

It was great to see the new principal of Broad Bay School, Greg McLeod, supporting his students to take an active role in local politics by preparing for and presenting their views on the Portobello Road Safety improvements to the the DCC Long Term Planning process. The students linked with the local community and were supported by the Peninsular Community Board. It is excellent to see young people learning how to impact local policy and have their voices heard.

Waitaki Valley School

Another new principal, Deidre Senior, is using her IT skills and experiences as a “Microsoft New Zealand’s Most Innovative Teacher” to drive change in her school around digital innovation. Deidre spent six weeks earlier this year visiting schools around the country looking at the use of digital devices in the classroom and has also been an ICT facilitator in the Oamaru area. Well done Deidre!

Please contact me if you wish to discuss any issues or ideas. I look forward to hearing from you.

Ngā mihi mahana
Julie

Email: julie.anderson@education.govt.nz
Direct Dial: 03 471 5217
Cell phone 027 836 4846

[Back to top](#)

EVENTS

27-29 MAY 2015 – [NZEI Rural & Teaching Principals Conference, Queenstown](#)
30 JUN – 3 JUL 2015 – [New Zealand Principals' Federation Conference, Wellington](#)
09-11 JUN 2015 – [International Enhancement Themes, Glasgow](#)
10-12 JUN 2015 – [New Zealand Catholic Education Convention, Wellington](#)
24-26 JUN 2015 – [6th IEA \(International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement\) International Research Conference, Cape Town, South Africa](#)
03- 5 JUL 2015 - [NZSTA 26th Annual Conference, Auckland](#)
13-15 AUG 2015 – [4th Annual Positive Behaviour for Learning School-Wide Conference, Auckland](#)
15-18 SEP 2015 – [European Association for International Education 27th Annual Conference, Glasgow](#)
29 Sept- 1 Oct 2015 [PPTA Annual Conference, Wellington](#)
23-26 NOV 2015 – [4th International Conference on Language, Education and Diversity, University of Auckland, NZ](#)

[Back to top](#)

MINISTRY NEWSLETTERS

[All Ministry Newsletters](#)

[Back to top](#)

UPCOMING MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS

[Click here to open the word document of upcoming Ministry information for schools for 2015](#)

[Back to top](#)

LIST OF EDUCATION-RELATED WEBSITES

Below is a list of NZ websites you may frequently access. We hope it helps to have them all in one place. If you wish to comment or have any suggestions regarding this item, please email bulletin@education.govt.nz

Education agencies

[NZQA](#) | New Zealand Qualifications Authority

[ERO](#) | Education Review Office

[ENZ](#) | Education New Zealand

[NZTC](#) | New Zealand Teachers Council

[EDUCANZ](#) | Education Council of Aotearoa NZ

[Careers NZ](#)

[UNESCO](#) | United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Other government education agencies

[NZSTA](#) | New Zealand School Trustees Association

[PPTA](#) | New Zealand Post Primary Teachers' Association

[NZPF](#) | New Zealand Principals' Federation

[SPANZ](#) | Secondary Principal's Association of NZ Inc

[NZEI Te Riu Roa](#) | New Zealand Educational Institute

[NZCER](#) | NZ Council for Educational Research

Ministry of Education websites

[ECE leadership, management and administration](#)

[ECE teaching and learning](#)

[Education Counts](#)

[Education Gazette](#)

[Educational Leaders](#)

[National Student Index](#)

[New Zealand Curriculum](#)

[Novopay Schools Payroll](#)

[Secondary Education Portal](#)

[Shaping Education – Future Direction](#)

[Services for Tertiary Education Organisations](#)

[Study it \(for NCEA students\)](#)

[Te Kete Ipurangi | TKI](#)

[Teaching and Learning Catalogue \(Down the back of the chair\)](#)

[Teach NZ](#)

[WICKED – games and activities to help with learning](#)

[Youth Guarantee and Vocational Pathways](#)

[Back to top](#)

FEEDBACK

Send us your feedback, comments or questions on any topic in the bulletin or anything else on your mind to: bulletin@education.govt.nz

[Back to top](#)

CONTACT PETER HUGHES

[Click here to send a message directly to Peter Hughes](#)