

Ministry bulletin for

SCHOOL LEADERS

He pitopito kōrero

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5. Registrations of Interest to access a **\$10 million contestable fund** to teach Mandarin Chinese, Japanese or Korean close on Thursday 20 November. [Read more...](#)
6. Teachers will be notified of the outcome from the **Advanced Classroom Expertise Teacher recognition** process today recognising exemplary practice in primary teaching. **Principals of teachers who are ACET recognised** will be asked to verify or otherwise that their teacher(s) have met the continuing eligibility criteria during 2014. [Read more...](#)
7. **Safety of Wi-Fi in schools:** We know some of you are fielding concerns from parents or members of your community about the safety of Wi-Fi. [Read more...](#)
8. [Here is a draft calendar of information we'll be sending you throughout 2015.](#) Please tell us what you think so we can ensure it is useful for you on an ongoing basis: email bulletin@minedu.govt.nz

Heads up

1. **Reminder: by 21 November**, schools can apply for Funding for Extraordinary Roll Growth if their school roll exceeds the trigger point. [Read more...](#)
2. Here's a PDF of [our ten Directors of Education and a map of the ten areas including the number of schools and early childhood centres in each](#)
3. [Health and Safety at Work Bill update](#)
4. **Reducing Red Tape...what we've agreed to do**
5. The Annual Reporting Circular relating to the **2014 annual financial reporting period** will be sent to you the week ending 14 November and a copy will also be on our website next week.
6. Term 3 attendance data for the Social Sector Trials due by 28 November. [Read more...](#)
7. **Teacher's Aide Resource Funding Information:** Students verified for Ongoing Resourcing or on the School High Health Needs Fund. [Read more...](#)
8. **The Education Review Office (ERO) has recently released two new national reports available online only:** [Evaluation of Teen Parent Units](#) and [Achievement 2013-2017: Success for students in 2013](#) - [Read more...](#)
9. Submissions are open for the [Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards 2015](#) and close 15 January 2015. Presentations will be made at the [19th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers](#) in June 2015
10. Prime Ministers Education Excellence Awards are open and close on 20 March. [Read more...](#)
11. **First World War resources connect the past, present and future:** Resources for learning about the First World War are now available on TKI. [Read more...](#)
12. The 20 **Ready to Read** titles are starting to arrive at schools... due to the large size of this distribution most schools will receive more than one package. [Click here for more information about this](#)

13. **Reminder: Navy competition 'Battle of the River Plate'** closes on 1 December. Get your entries in and [Read more here](#)

General

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List of upcoming Ministry communications

[Click here to open the word document \(draft calendar of information we will be sending you in 2015\)](#)

List of education-related websites

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

Regional news

Tai Tokerau

[Regional update from Hira Gage](#)

Auckland

[Regional update from Kevin Emery](#)

Waikato

[Regional update from Paula Rawiri](#)

Bay of Plenty, Rotorua, Taupo

[Regional update from Ezra Schuster](#)

Hawke's Bay, Gisborne

[Regional update from Marilyn Scott](#)

Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatu

[Regional update from Jann Marshall](#)

Wellington

[Regional update from Pauline Cleaver](#)

Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast

No news this issue. Email [Erika Ross](#) any time

Canterbury

[Regional update from Coralanne Child](#)

Otago, Southland

[Regional update from Julie Anderson](#)

Events

[Click here to see events](#) (one **new** event since last issue)

Newsletters

1. [Shaping Education 10 November 2014](#)

Critical need to know and action

Investing in Educational Success

The Teacher-led Innovation Fund goes live on 11 November. [Teachers will be able to apply for funding for research projects here](#)

The fund is part of the Investing in Educational Success programme and is designed to help teachers come up with and test new ways of raising educational achievement. \$10m is available over the next four years.

Teachers can apply individually but projects must include at least three teachers.

Applications for funding in the 2015/16 financial year will close 20 February on and following a selection process the first projects will be approved in June.

[More information on the Teacher-led Innovation Fund is available here](#) or you can email us at IES.Team@minedu.govt.nz

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Decile Recalculations

We have completed the process of recalculating schools' deciles using data from Census 2013 and student address information provided by schools.

All schools will be advised of their decile rating by Thursday 20 November 2014 and information and contact details about the review process will be included in the information that you will receive. We will work closely with you to provide any support that you need to adjust to changes.

Of the country's 2406 state and state-integrated schools, roughly one-third have moved to a lower decile rating, one-third have moved up, and one-third have remained the same. A total of 800 schools have moved to a lower decile rating and approximately the same number, 784 schools, have moved to a higher decile rating. For another 822 schools, there has been no change.

Transitional funding will be provided to assist schools if their new decile rating results in a lower funding level. Schools will remain on their current funding rate until 1 July 2015, at which point they will move half way towards the new funding level. On 1 July 2016, schools will fully transition to the new funding level.

For schools that have higher funding rates as a result of the recalculation, new rates will apply from the beginning of the 2015 school year.

Background information about decile-linked operational funding

Three components of schools' operational grants depend on decile ratings: targeted funding for educational disadvantage, the special education grant, and the careers information grant.

The goal of decile-linked operational grant funding is to provide additional resources to enable schools to overcome the barriers to learning facing students from socio-economically disadvantaged communities. The money is provided in cash and Boards determine how it is spent.

A school's decile rating is based on the socio-economic status of the communities where the school's students live. There are five indicators of socio-economic status for a community:

- Percentage of households with income in the lowest 20 per cent nationally
- Percentage of parents in lowest occupational groups
- Household crowding
- Percentage of parents with no educational qualifications
- Percentage of parents receiving income support benefits

These are equally weighted in the calculations.

[Information about how deciles are calculated and other decile-related information is available here](#)

[Frequently asked questions and answers](#)

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Schools Planning and Reporting (SPaR)

Working with the sector on the future design for schools planning and reporting

The Ministry is working with the sector to improve the future approach to planning and reporting.

Discussions are underway with NZEI, NZPF, NZAIMS, SPANZ, Te Runanga Nui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Aotearoa, Ngā Kura ā Iwi, and NZSTA to form a working group to collaborate on the design of the future approach. The group has agreed to help design a process that is focused less on compliance, and takes better account of schools' planning and reporting cycles.

A more substantial long term approach to changes is preferred by the group rather than the implementation of quick fixes for 2014/15.

The group has proposed the following points for further discussion:

- Change the requirement to update the strategic section of the charter to every three years, retaining the requirement for yearly updates to the annual plan.
- Change the submission date.

Wider consultation will be undertaken on the proposed changes and we look forward to your feedback; we will keep you updated on the group's progress.

Preparing and submitting your 2014/15 planning and reporting

While longer-term changes are being explored, existing legal requirements and timeframes will remain unchanged for 2014/15. The Ministry approach for this cycle will be to undertake a random sample of charters. Your charter, analysis of variance and any NAG 2A reporting are all due to the Ministry by 1 March 2015.

We've improved our guidance, templates, systems, and processes to better support your preparation and submission for 2014/15, and we're in the process of making other beneficial changes.

To support you to develop your charter and complete your NAG 2A reporting, the 'Incorporating National Standards' and 'Reporting National Standards' resources have been revised and combined into one document. Improvements have also been made to the 'Charters and Analysis of Variance Guidance for Secondary Schools'. These will be available later this week.

Link: <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/Boards/SchoolPlanningAndReporting/Resources.aspx>

We've been working with student management system vendors to make it possible to report your National Standards data directly from your student management system in 2015. We will provide further details on these changes in early December.

There is a new Excel template for schools or kura not using a student management system to report their 2014 National Standards NAG 2A(c) data. An updated Word template for reporting National Standards NAG 2A(b) commentary is also available, and new user guidelines have been developed to help you use both templates.

Link: www.minedu.govt.nz/NStemplates

Ngā Whanaketanga Rumaki Māori reporting for 2014 should be submitted using the *Te Waharoa Ararau ā-Motu* online tool. The tool and updated user guidelines are available now: www.tewaharoaararau.vln.school.nz/a-kura/

The planning and reporting *Preparation Checklist* has been updated and a new *Submission Checklist* has been developed to help you to prepare and submit your school planning and reporting documents. Both will be available later this week.

Link: www.minedu.govt.nz/sendingyourdocuments

We're improving the school data portal now to make it easier to submit your school or kura documents in 2015. These changes to submission technology will be in place mid-January and we encourage your school or kura to submit your planning and reporting documents from this time to benefit from these improvements.

If you have any questions about the school planning and reporting process or require any support, your local Ministry senior advisor is your first point of contact.

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Employment Court decision in the 'Sleepovers' case

On 10 October 2014 sector representatives from SPANZ, Catholic Education Office, Independent Schools of New Zealand and NZSTA attended a meeting, hosted by the Ministry of Education, to share information and discuss the potentially significant implications of the [Employment Court's decision in the "Sleepovers" case](#)

The participants at the meeting recognised the importance and urgency of the concerns that are being raised by the sector and have agreed to work collaboratively to develop a plan to support principals and boards of trustees to address those (and future) concerns. A follow up meeting is planned for the end of November this year - sooner if considered

necessary - which will provide a further opportunity for discussion, confirm actions taken, and report on developments.

Schools with hostels are likely to have recently received information from NZSTA, Independent Schools of New Zealand, or the Association of Proprietors of Integrated Schools with advice specific to their circumstances. If further issues or concerns arise, it is recommended that advice is sought, in the first instance, from NZSTA (0800 782 435) or Independent Schools of New Zealand ((04) 4712022).

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Advanced Classroom Expertise Teacher recognition

To recognise exemplary practice in primary teaching, the Advanced Classroom Expertise Teacher (ACET) allowance was introduced as part of the settlement of the Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement 2013-2015. ACET recognition is based on eligibility and professional criteria agreed between the Ministry, NZEI Riu Roa and NZSTA.

Teachers will be notified of their outcome from the ACET recognition process today.

Principals of teachers who are ACET recognised will receive a letter to sign and return to verify or otherwise that their teacher(s) have met the continuing eligibility criteria during 2014. [A summary of the process, outcomes and evaluation panel is available.](#)

Teachers in your school interested in becoming ACET recognised next year, need to begin discussions with their professional leaders now. [Read more](#)

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Safety of Wi-Fi in schools

We know some of you are fielding concerns from parents or members of your community about the safety of Wi-Fi.

The Ministry of Health has confirmed that Wi-Fi technology is not harmful to health: [Letter from Ministry of Health](#) (top right of web page)

We recently put advice on the [Parent Portal](#) of the Ministry of Education website, which includes [advice about the safety of Wi-Fi](#)

Digital technologies provide many benefits for learning and schools are increasingly using mobile devices as an integral part of day-to-day teaching and learning. We will continue to develop advice and guidance to schools and for parents and communities on how to get the best use of the technologies available, while ensuring the safety and well-being of our students.

Concerns about Wi-Fi can polarise communities and be challenging for you and your board to deal with. If you need further assistance, or specific material to help allay parent or community concerns, please contact your local Director of Education and they will be happy to help.

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Critical need to know and action items 5 and 8 are in full in the index

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Heads up

Health and Safety at Work Bill update

Further to our earlier updates on the Health and Safety Reform Bill, we are in the process of establishing a sector-led working group to enable us to help you prepare for the proposed changes in legislation. We have contacted peak bodies and requested they nominate a representative to be involved.

The group will work together to ensure that advice and guidance is up to date and aligned to any changes proposed by the Bill, and is written in an accessible and useful way. We plan to have our first meeting early December.

We are working closely with WorkSafe New Zealand, the Education Review Office and Crown Law to prepare for the reforms. Schools that already have, and are using good health and safety policies and processes are well on the way to being prepared for when the new legislation comes into effect.

We will be developing a Health and Safety web portal. We will work with NZSTA and WorkSafe New Zealand to discuss the feasibility of the portal linking across our websites. We are also developing an on-line document with early guidance on the Bill. This will be published via the Ministry Bulletin and the Education Gazette and should be available in December.

Contact – Jill Bond, Associate Deputy Secretary jill.bond@minedu.govt.nz or 04 463 2839

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Reducing Red Tape

Summary of the Red Tape Clutter Buster and Ministry team's agreed Communications for the listed work streams

Please see below a summary of the agreed communications and thank you again for your participation in providing feedback during the course of this project.

Please note all email addresses below use first name.surname@minedu.govt.nz

Communications regarding Interim Response Fund

The following improvements have been agreed:

- The application process for IRF will build on what is working well now and will ensure a process that is as streamlined and accessible as possible.
- Promoting a high trust way of working by removing the expectation that schools will report on the use of the IRF funding.
- Ensuring we provide better, more accessible communications about IRF.

Please email [Aleeta Hau](#) or [Megan Somerville](#) with any queries.

Removal of the H05 Form

The following improvements have been agreed:

- The H05 form has been removed
- Further changes will be made to communications to schools about teacher's aide funding for students with ORS or SHHNF.

Please email [Robyn Ward](#) with any queries.

Communications regarding Alternative Education

The following are the agreed next steps for Alternative Education:

Current- End of 2014

- A Professional Development Plan is currently being investigated and developed for providers.
- The Alternative Education National Body (AENB) is currently discussing proposed changes to access to resources with Te Kura and looking at ways to address the issue.
- Placement numbers and needs are being looked at within regions to see where allocations can be adjusted to respond to the needs of the providers and their communities.

2015- 2016

- In preparation for contract renewals in 2015, the following pieces of work will be the focus:
- Contracts and reporting models
- Placement numbers and need
- Improved communications, particularly through the website redevelopment, especially relating to clarity of roles and responsibilities and updating the IEP exemplars.

Please email [Ashlee Cuneen](#) or [Megan Somerville](#) with any queries.

Communications regarding Boarding Allowances

The following improvements have been agreed:

- The timeline for applications to better reflect the school calendar year, with a date late in October for applications pertaining to the next academic year.
- A more transparent model and communications at all stages of the Boarding Allowance application process
- Improve the current online form by moving this to the new forms framework.
- Electronic remittance slips sent to schools will include what allowance is being received by each individual and the amount.

- Smooth transitioning of Boarding Allowance information to www.Education.govt.nz with criteria clearly outlined and links to forms and other information included. We will encourage parents to proactively work with schools during this process.

Please email [Kate Ford](#) or [Daniel Tuaoi](#) with any queries.

Supplementary Support Application and Allocations

The following improvements have been agreed:

- Introduce an online application form that is streamlined and more user friendly
- Allocation process is brought forward for 2015 round
- Allocations confirmed with schools early Term 4 2014

Please email [Elizabeth Keresoma](#) or [Nash Anand](#) with any queries.

Communications regarding Early Leaving Exemptions

The following improvements have been agreed:

- Better online information about the criteria, general process and other options for Early Leaving Exemptions.
- Improve the current application form and process.
- Take the opportunity to reframe the direction of these exemptions, given the educational climate has changed significantly since their introduction.
- The Student Support team will work across the Ministry to focus on how this process can have a more positive impact on some learners and should become a more valued and constructive tool.
- Improve all communications about the opportunities for disengaged students, including the use of Section 71, and ensure these are well known/well communicated.

Please email [Lucy Ambrose](#) or [Megan Somerville](#) with any queries.

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Term 3 attendance data for the Social Sector Trials

You've likely already recorded your attendance data for term three, 21 July – 26 September 2014, in your Electronic Attendance Register (eAR), so you'll only need to extract and send the data as follows:

- Make sure the reasons for absence up-to-date – we count blanks and “?” as truant.
- Extract the attendance file for **all of term three** – Monday 21 July 2014 to Friday 26 September 2014.
- Use the School Data Portal to send the file by **28 November 2014**.

[You can find general information about sending attendance data to the Ministry here](#)

Why we are collecting extra attendance data

We need to collect attendance data for all terms this year from schools in the Social Sector Trial areas. We want to deal with truancy by using evidence from schools to better target resources. To do this, we need to gather attendance information and work out where truancy is happening. To get useful results, we need data from as many schools as possible, including schools that do not have attendance problems.

About the Social Sector Trials

Ministries of Education, Health, Justice and Social Development, and the New Zealand Police have developed the Social Sector Trials to improve the outcomes of youths within your trial area. The Social Sector Trials involves working together to change the way social services are delivered.

The Social Sector Trials started on 1 March 2011 in six communities: Taumarunui and Waitomo, South Waikato, Kawerau, Horowhenua and Gore districts. We've extended the trials in these six locations to finish on 30 June 2015.

Ten further Trials began on 1 July 2013 in Kaikohe, Rānui (West Auckland), Waikato District, Rotorua District, Whakatane Township, Gisborne City, South Taranaki District, Wairarapa (Masterton, South Wairarapa and Carterton districts), Porirua, and South Dunedin. Trials in these ten locations are due to finish on 30 June 2015.

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Teacher's Aide Resource Funding Information: Students verified for Ongoing Resourcing or on the School High Health Needs Fund

The teacher's aide moderation process for these students has taken place in Terms 3 and 4 in each Ministry district. All existing allocations of teacher's aide funding and all new funding requests are carefully considered, so students with similar support needs across

the district and /or region have similar levels of resourcing based on the information that is available.

A moderation team decides the funding each student will receive in the coming year. A reference group of representatives of school staff and parents/ whānau is usually involved in these decisions.

Schools and/or families/whanau may apply for a review of the resource allocation or may also apply at any time during the school year when there is a change of circumstances.

[Click here for information on the review process for allocation of ORS teacher's aide](#)

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New Education Review Office reports

The Education Review Office (ERO) has recently released two new national reports. These reports are available online only – **use the links below (underlined)** to read them online or download copies.

Evaluation of Teen Parent Units

This evaluation reports on the quality of education in 21 Teen Parent Units (TPUs). ERO found that most of the Teen Parent Units (TPUs) were performing well.

Achievement 2013-2017: Success for students in 2013

This report presents the findings of ERO's evaluation of the Ministry of Education's initiative, Achievement 2013-2017. This initiative is about schools and the Ministry working together to improve student achievement. In particular, groups of Year 12 students identified as being unlikely to gain NCEA Level 2 without additional support.

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2015 Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards

Entries are now open for the 2015 Education Excellence Awards. The Awards recognise and celebrate outstanding achievements in early childhood, primary and secondary schooling. The awards focus on the work of groups, teams and partnerships in English, Māori or Pasifika medium.

Categories for the awards are engaging, leading, teaching and learning, and governing. An additional prize will recognise an area of particular education focus.

For the 2015 Awards, the focus is collaboration that creates learner-led pathways from early childhood to schooling.

For further information please visit pmawards.education.govt.nz or contact us at info@pmawards.education.govt.nz or 0800 PM Awards (0800 762 927).

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First World War resources connect the past, present and future

Those expecting a traditional focus on guns, battles and fighting in the new cross curriculum First World War inquiry guides will be surprised. The guides promise to kick start student thinking in directions they've never been before.

The resources for [Years 1-4 and 5-8](#) are the first in a series of inquiry guides in English, and resource packs in Māori, for Years 1-13 that come out between mid-November and the end of September 2015.

The resources help students explore events and experiences of the First World War home front, the Pacific and the battlefield by presenting a "hook" to get their inquiry into aspects of the war started. There are plenty of images, resources and links to more information to help them go in whichever direction they want.



The guides pose some interesting and challenging questions for students in Years 5-8. How would a New Zealand woman have felt when her letter to her war hero sweetheart was returned to her – unopened? What on earth did the state of soldiers' teeth have to do with war? Why did some Māori refuse to fight for King and country?

What if our tunnellers had the use of mobile phones to thwart the enemy?

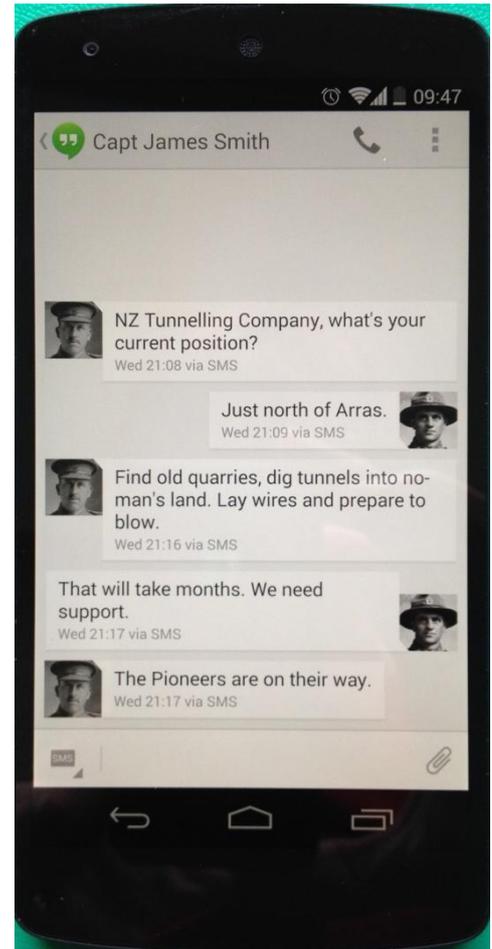
In the years 1-4 inquiry guide, donkeys, pigeons and even a tortoise's relevance to the war effort can be examined. Students can look at a portrait of a soldier and his young family and wonder how they might have felt seeing their father go off to war.

Each guide explores a different aspect of the First World War and can be used for any learning area in the curriculum. They can be used in any order and adapted to suit learner interest, a whole-school focus or a specific event.

The guides are indeed about the war as a very poignant historic event in our history, but very cleverly make links and parallels with our lives today. One example is social bullying. Being handed a white feather – a symbol of cowardice – by a young woman was the ultimate in humiliation for men during this time. Students are asked to think about how social bullying occurs today.

There's also a place for exploring wider civic issues such as peace, reconciliation, rights and responsibilities.

A companion Inquiry Support Guide for teachers of years 1-8 gives more information on each stage of the inquiry process and links to more resources. An inquiry support guide for teachers of years 9-13 will be available by the end of the year.



How handy would a mobile phone have been for New Zealand tunnellers during the First World War?

The inquiry guides and resource packs are being developed in partnership with the National Library of New Zealand Services to Schools and with input from teachers and the WW100 Programme Office.

Look out for the next available resources – Māori-medium resource packs for Years 5-8 and 9-10.

The resources will be available mid-November on TKI:

<http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Curriculum-resources/National-events-and-the-NZC>

Links to more information and resources about the First World War

First World War themed school journals:

- [School journal](#)
- [Junior journal](#)
- www.WW100.govt.nz
- <http://schools.natlib.govt.nz/>

Learn alongside a French school through the Shared Histories project

- <http://www.sharedhistories.com/>
- www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/first-world-war
- <http://www.anzac.govt.nz/>

Set up a Field of Remembrance in time for ANZAC Day 2015 in your school or community. There was an [item in the Bulletin](#) about this on 13 October. Here's is a link to the [Fields of Remembrance Trust](#) website

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Heads up items 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 are in full in the index

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General

New report on digital technologies in schools

The 2020 Communications Trust has released a new report providing a comprehensive overview of the use of digital technologies in New Zealand schools.

The full report is available on [the 2020 Trust website](#). A shorter, summary of results is [available here](#)

The survey, carried out earlier this year, finds that many schools are already embracing technology in the classroom, with a national average of one school- provided computer to every three students, and 49% of schools indicating devices are being used in most or all classrooms.

In addition, most schools (75%) are noticing a positive impact on student achievement as a result of using digital technologies.

The report, which was partially funded by the Ministry, enables us to get a richer understanding of schools' progress and will help inform future planning.

Visit our [Enabling e-Learning web section](#) to find out more about effectively integrating technology with teaching and learning.

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Occasional paper No. 51, *Attendance at primary school: factors and consequences*, has just been released

This paper uses data from the first four waves of *Growing Up in Australia: the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children* and NAPLAN to look at patterns of primary school attendance at different ages, and the effects of absenteeism on academic achievement. The authors also analyse the child, family and school characteristics that correlate with absenteeism.

[The paper is available for download from the DSS website here](#)

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Minister Parata has announced the winners of The Challenge

Education Minister Hekia Parata has announced the winners of *The Challenge*, a creative school competition honouring one of New Zealand's finest fighting forces, the 28th Māori Battalion. [Read more...](#)

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Pop up playgroup trailer – Mobile early childhood education outreach project

The Mobile ECE Outreach Project looks to promote awareness of early childhood education and raise levels of participation in quality ECE.

The Hastings Early Childhood Community Action Group (Hastings CAG) and Purena Koa Rehua Youth Services are equipping a fully covered trailer with early childhood resources and marketing materials.

This trailer will be available to community groups (including schools) when they hold events, particularly where the event connects with families of non-participating children. In this way it's hoped to promote awareness of ECE and raise levels of participation.

For more information please contact Kayren Hatherell by email: pkryouthsrv@xtra.co.nz or phone: 06 8796434

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Ready to Read webinar

[Click here to register](#) for the Ready to Read webinar being held on Thursday 20 November from 3.30-4.30pm. For information about the webinar, [click here](#)

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Reporting to Parents and Whānau material

We have recently completed updating our 'Reporting to Parents' material for school leaders and teachers. Updated templates, models and examples have been provided to assist schools in developing their own reporting frameworks. The material was tested with key user-groups including schools and parents. This can be found on Assessment On-line <http://assessment.tki.org.nz/Reporting-to-parents-whanau>

REGIONAL NEWS



TAI TOKERAU | Hira Gage

Kia ora koutou

This term is certainly proving to be a busy one for everyone with various end of year events planned and Xmas just around the corner.

I had the privilege of attending the prize giving celebrations of both Whangarei Girls High School and Kerikeri High School which showcased the marvellous achievements of our up and coming leaders of tomorrow. Congratulations to Principals' Anne Cooper and Elizabeth Forgie, their staff and Boards of Trustees for their unwavering commitment to quality teaching and learning that is making a real difference for students and their whanau.



Mania View Kindergarten (left) was officially opened on 28 October by her worship Mayor Sheryl Mai. The kindergarten is situated on the Manaia View School property and is the result of a joint initiative supported by Northland Kindergarten Association, Manaia View School and the Ministry. The new centre will cater for 30 tamariki and being on school grounds will enable a smooth transition into their first years at primary school.

Congratulations to the whole team for making this happen and giving our tamariki a wonderful new facility.

IES update

We are meeting with schools and responding to questions about Investing in Educational Success, particularly the formation of Communities of Schools in our area. If your school might want to be part of a Community please complete the simple [Expression of Interest](#) form and send it to us. It doesn't matter if you don't have other schools on board yet: the Ministry can help put you in touch with potential Community members.

Completing an Expression of Interest is not a commitment to joining a Community of Schools. It does help start useful conversations and allow us to support schools who would like help with the process.

Feel free to give me a call directly if you would like to discuss further 0275015068.

Nga mihi mahana ki koutou
Hira

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AUCKLAND | Kevin Emery

Westminster Christian School maximum roll increase

The Ministry has received an application from the Proprietor of Westminster Christian School for an increase to its maximum roll from 250 to 300 students. The school is a state integrated non-denominational integrated Year 1-8 full primary school with a current maximum roll of 250 including 25 non preference places. The Proprietor wishes to increase the number of non-preference places to 30.

In support of the application the Proprietor cites:

- High residential developments on the North Shore
- Current maximum roll will be reached in term four 2014
- High increase in new immigrants
- Consistent roll increase over past three years
- High interest in our special character

Under section 157 of the Education Act 1989 the Ministry, on behalf of the Minister of Education, is required to consult with any state or state integrated school, whose rolls might, in the opinion of the Minister, be affected if the maximum roll application is approved. As part of the assessment of this application the feedback from board of trustees of any primary or intermediate school located on Auckland's North Shore is sought. Consultation comments can be forwarded to Ken.white@minedu.govt.nz by Friday 5 December. A copy of the application is available on request.

Inclusive Practices Tool 2015 programme

Our 2015 Inclusive Practices Development Programme is designed to support you to use the new **NZCER Inclusive Practices Tools**. These tools help you consult widely with your community, to self review and develop a plan to strengthen inclusive practices in your school.

[Please click here for the full flyer which includes dates, times, venues and other useful information](#)

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WAIKATO | Paula Rawiri

Kia ora koutou

Out and about

Thank you to the Waihi Principals cluster for hosting Cameron Freathey and I last week. It was great to be able to meet with you and discuss the pertinent educational matters concerning you and your schools. One of the items we robustly discussed was [IES](#). This I found really helpful to understand better your concerns. If any other Principal groups would like me or one of our team to come and speak with you about this, then please get in touch at paula.rawiri@minedu.govt.nz. In the last fortnight I have also had the chance to meet Jennifer Roberts with her team at Patricia Ave School and visit the satellites at Melville Primary and Melville High School. Amazing work with amazing kids – ka mau te wehi.

A focus on Māori student achievement

Māori achievement rates in the Waikato rose 6.3% between 2011 and 2013 and now sit at 62.7%, compared with the Waikato average for all students of 76.6%. How does this rate

compare with what is happening for Māori students in your school? There are some fantastic examples of work schools and communities are doing in the recent release of [Ka Hikitia in Action](#). I would be pleased to hear about successes you have had to lift Māori student achievement in your school or kura. Alternatively if you would like to talk about this further get in touch with your Senior Adviser or myself.

Sport Waikato Secondary School Sports Awards

Congratulations to all the nominees and recipients of awards at the recent Sport Waikato Secondary Schools Awards hosted at Wintec. I am sure that amongst the many winners last Sunday we have future Olympians and sports stars. It was obvious through the number of Principals and teachers there these students get lots of support from you, along with their parents and families and the wider community. I know these young people work hard both on the sports field and with their learning. They can be very proud of their achievements.

Waikato Inclusive Practices Development Programme 2015

The NZCER Inclusive Practices Tools are designed to help a school self-review their inclusive practices and to reflect on and develop a plan to further strengthen practices. The tools support schools to consult widely with their whole school community and to gather data to inform the self-review.

The Waikato Inclusive Practices Development Programme will be run over four sessions during terms two and three 2015. During the programme facilitators will guide you step by step through this process of using the NZCER tools in your school.

We are planning to offer this programme in Paeroa, Hamilton, Taumarunui and Putaruru. For further information or to enrol please contact your Special Education Service Manager or email SEenquiries.Waikato@education.govt.nz

Did you know?

In the Waikato on average 30 children will have their first day at school or kura each day. Thank you to the teachers who have the privilege of meeting these children, their families and whānau and guiding them through their first few weeks and months at school or kura. Helping these youngsters get off to a great start in school is vital.

Noho ora mai, Paula

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BAY OF PLENTY, ROTORUA, TAUPO | Ezra Schuster

Tēnā koutou katoa and Talofa lava

November is a busy time of the year as some of you will be winding up with school camps, prize giving events and exams. I've spent the last week attending several prize giving ceremonies and I was inspired and encouraged by the achievements, not only of the young people who received awards but also the support shown by their peers. The overwhelming support demonstrated by fellow students was moving. Thank you to Violet at Western Heights High School, Chris at Whakatane, Philip at Trident, Chris Grinter at Rotorua Boys High, Ally at Rotorua Girls High and Patrick at John Paul College for the opportunity to attend your ceremonies.

Appointment

I am pleased to announce that Nicky Hampshire has been permanently appointed as Regional Manager for Special Education working across Bay of Plenty-Wairariki, Waikato and Hawke's Bay-Gisborne. Nicky has been acting in the Regional Manager role, as well as her substantive position as District Manager for Bay of Plenty East, based in Tauranga, for the last 12 months. We are working on a District Manager replacement and I will update you on this in the next Bulletin. Nicky will take up her new position on 17 November.

Investing in Education Success (IES)

There is increased interest in IES, particularly the formation of Communities of Schools. If you want to discuss this with me and how this could work in your community, please don't hesitate to contact me, either by email ezra.schuster@minedu.govt.nz or phone 09 347 8309 or 027 2968196

Roots of Empathy Founder coming to Rotorua!

Thanks to Warwick Moyle, principal at Kaharoa Primary and trustee of the Roots of Empathy Trust, Rotorua will host Mary Gordon, the founder of the Roots of Empathy programme, for two days: 26-27 November. Many of you will be aware of the programme which is run in schools across NZ, as well as in every province of Canada, the USA, the Isle of Man, the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, England, Wales, Scotland, and Germany.

Mary is from Canada and will be accompanied by another staff member. A full programme is being organised including visits to schools, meeting principals, the Mayor, and the guest speaker at the Baby Celebration event hosted by the RDC. We have the pleasure of hosting Mary to present and speak on Thursday 27 November between 2.00pm-3.30pm here at the Ministry in Rotorua.

Further details will be sent out shortly and for more information you can visit www.rootsofempathy.org

Bouquets

Malfroy School in Rotorua was awarded a 2014 National School of Character Award by the NZ Foundation for Character Education (NZFCE). Only four other schools have been selected for this award (Otago Girls' High, Hato Paora College, Rathkeale College and Hamilton Boys' High).

I had the pleasure alongside John Heenan, Director of the NZFCE, to present the award to principal Nicky Brell and his staff. A great acknowledgement of the work Nicky and the team at Malfroy are doing.

Have a great fortnight
Ezra

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HAWKE'S BAY, GISBORNE | Marilyn Scott

Kia ora koutou

Deciles

Elsewhere in this Bulletin you'll have read that the new deciles will be with you by Thursday 20 November.

On Monday 24 November, we'll be running a Deciles' meeting here in the Ministry's offices at 8a Lever Street Ahuriri for any principals, staff, parents or board members who'd like to hear more about deciles in general, and how they're generated. We'll also be happy to answer any specific questions. The meeting will run from 4pm, and our staff will be available from 4pm to 6.30pm.

Staff List

[This link will take you to our latest staff list.](#) We'll put these out from time to time now.

You're welcome to get in touch with any of our staff through the main telephone number: 06 833 6730.

Our first Registration for a Community of Schools

We've had our first registration of interest from a group of schools interested in becoming a Community. That's really exciting and we'll be working with them over the next little while, as they determine what their academic challenges are and how they want to see them addressed.

Ranfurly Shield

Had a special visitor (the Ranfurly Shield) to the Ministry's office here in Napier on 7 November. Just thought I'd mention that for all the non Hawke's Bay people reading this!

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TARANAKI, WHANGANUI, MANAWATU | Jann Marshall

Kia ora koutou

I have had the opportunity to meet with many principals across Taranaki, Whanganui and Manawatu since I started in the role in July. The majority of these meetings have taken place in schools which has allowed me to see many schools in action. I have also been to a number of Principal Association meetings.

Two weeks ago, the Taihape cluster hosted Rob Mill, Lead Development Advisor for the Learning and Change networks and myself; we both appreciated being able to speak to you all collectively. Last week, I had the pleasure of talking with some of the region's "First Time" principals in New Plymouth and Palmerston North.

A special event was the attendance at a school prize-giving where I saw the efforts of a large number of students rewarded and not to go unmentioned was how much of this success was because of the commitment and dedication of the teaching staff. I really value these engagements as it allows me to get to know your priorities and challenges so that we can better support you.

I will be making contact with you all over time. If at any time you would like me to come and speak with your cluster or association please contact me at:

jann.marshall@minedu.govt.nz

Do you know someone suffering from violence and abuse?

Clare Fearnley of Whanganui Family Violence Intervention Network has provided [an information sheet with contact details of Whanganui agencies providing support](#). There is also support information for young people needing to control their anger, and stop their violent and abusive attitudes and behaviours.

She would also like to draw your attention to Child Matters. This is a registered charitable trust that provides guidance, advice, education and support to individuals and organisations in a position to act to protect children: <http://www.childmatters.org.nz/> If schools would like Clare to organise one of their trainings in Whanganui, get in touch with her.

Her contact details are:

Clare Fearnley

VIN Network & Projects Co-ordinator

Whanganui Family Violence Intervention Network (VIN) clare.fearnley@psc.org.nz

c/- Family Works Whanganui, 179 Wicksteed St, Whanganui

Ph: 06 345 6681 * DDI: 06 349 1488

Student Achievement Practitioner

This week we welcome Dianne Wilson to the Ministry as a Student Achievement Function Practitioner (SAF). Many of you will know Dianne from when she was involved in facilitating He Kakano and most recently as a facilitator for Kia Eke Panuku: Building on Success. Dianne has taught extensively in Māori Medium and main stream positions (both primary and secondary schools) in Palmerston North/Rangitikei. We are very fortunate to have Dianne in the team. You can read more about the role of the SAF Practitioner and how they may support your school at: <http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/System-of-support-incl.-PLD/School-initiated-supports/Student-Achievement-Function-SAF>

Alternatively talk to your Senior Advisor.

Whanganui Principals reminder: Whanganui Children's Team Information Session – Tuesday 11 November 1-3pm

Just a quick reminder that Kristina Perry, the Education Lead from the Children's Action Plan Directorate, is running an information session on 11 November at the Ministry of Education office, 93 Ingestre St, Whanganui.

Kristina will outline the role of the team and the Whanganui team's implementation timeline, and provide information on how other sites have implemented their teams. This will give you an insight into how your school may be involved. We look forward to seeing you.

Ngā mihi
Jann

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WELLINGTON | Pauline Cleaver

Kia ora koutou

Reminder to schools that have been invited to participate in Massey University's Early Literacy Research project

Invitations were sent out in October to randomly selected schools in the Wellington region, inviting them to participate in Massey University's Early Literacy Research project, which commences in term 1 2015. The information sessions are being held on 13 November (Wellington) and 12 November (Palmerston North).

This important longitudinal (2015-2017) research project aims to improve the literacy learning outcomes of New Entrant children during, and beyond, their first year of schooling. The study will make an important contribution to New Zealand research on literacy acquisition among young children, and will provide a great PLD opportunity for New Entrant teachers.

If you have not yet responded to this invitation, please email: isobel.connelly@minedu.govt.nz by Tuesday 11 November. If you are unable to make this date and would like to participate, please contact us to make alternative arrangements.

Ngā mihi
Pauline

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NELSON, MARLBOROUGH, WEST COAST | Erika Ross

No new this issue.

Please feel free to phone me (03) 539 1533 or email me at erika.ross@minedu.govt.nz

Ngā mihi
Erika

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CANTERBURY | Coralanne Child

[Regional update from Coralanne](#)

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OTAGO, SOUTHLAND | Julie Anderson

Kia ora koutou and warm Pasifika greetings

Ngā Putangitangi competition in Southland

This community kapa haka competition was held at the ILT Southland Stadium on 29 October. It was wonderful to hear that seventeen local schools participated. I understand a group from Limehills School performed a haka created by their teacher, Stacey Anderson. The haka included the values of respect, integrity, participation, perseverance, empathy and responsibility that have been taught at the school. What a positive and creative way to reinforce these key ideas. Well done to Limehills and all the other schools and children involved.

End of year celebrations and the senior examination season

I know the secondary principals will have had a busy last few weeks with prize giving celebrations, sport and cultural awards nights and final assemblies to farewell your senior students. Best wishes to all the Otago and Southland students and their teachers, as they focus on the “final push” for the examinations. Hopefully you and your staff may soon have some space for forward planning as we rush towards 2015.

STA presentation on IES

It is always good to talk with school communities, BOT members and principals together, as was the case last week in Dunedin at the STA presentation on IES. It is the supportive links between schools and their communities that make a real difference for the achievement of our students. The community members and principals asked numerous questions and a number of viewpoints were shared within the group. I am available to respond to requests to talk with principals, teachers, BOT members and school communities about the nature of IES.

PLD allocations

By now you should have all received your PLD allocations for 2015. This is a limited resource and our staff have worked hard to ensure Otago and Southland schools’ needs are met as much as possible but we are unable to meet all schools’ requests and have to prioritise based on needs. Don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any queries about your PLD and be assured that your senior advisor will keep in touch should any new professional development opportunities emerge.

We are looking at a new approach to centrally-funded PLD. The report on the Professional Learning and Development Advisory Group outlines the thinking so far. This is [available on our website](#) in a very readable form (scroll down the page to access the report). The group is keen to get your feedback on the proposed model.

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

Ngā mihi, Julie

Email: julie.anderson@minedu.govt.nz

Direct Dial: 03 471 5217

Cell phone 027 836 4846

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EVENTS

25-28 NOV - [International Indigenous Development Research Conference, Auckland](#)

30 NOV - 4 DEC – [International Conference of the Australian Association for Research in Education \(AARE\) in partnership with New Zealand Association for Research in Education \(NZARE\): Speaking back through research, Brisbane](#)

15-18 FEB 2015 – [Association of International Education Administrators' Annual Conference, Washington DC](#)

23-26 MAR 2015 – [Asia Pacific Association for International Education Conference and Exhibition 2015, Beijing, China](#)

15-17 APR – [NZ Association for Cooperative Education Inc 2015 Conference, Wellington](#)

09-11 JUN 2015 – [International Enhancement Themes, Glasgow](#)

24-26 JUN 2015 – [6th IEA \(International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement\) International Research Conference, Cape Town, South Africa](#) **New**

15-18 SEP 2015 – [European Association for International Education 27th Annual Conference, Glasgow](#)

23-26 NOV 2015 – [4th International Conference on Language, Education and Diversity, University of Auckland, NZ](#)

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MINISTRY NEWSLETTERS

- [Shaping Education 10 November 2014](#)

[All Ministry Newsletters](#)

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UPCOMING MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS

[Click here to open the draft calendar of information](#) that we will be sending you in 2015 – this will be updated on an ongoing basis.

We are keen to hear what you think and if this is useful via bulletin@minedu.govt.nz

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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@minedu.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](#)

Contact us at: bulletin@minedu.govt.nz

+64 4 463 8919

www.minedu.govt.nz

[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](#)

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FEEDBACK

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

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CONTACT PETER HUGHES

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