



Editorial

PAT LYNCH

Because New Zealand is a small, isolated nation we often lack perspective on the real problems many countries cope with. Our domestic issues simply fade into the ether when put against the problems associated with the population intensities and strong pressures on resources other countries face.

Unfortunately, as a nation we often exhibit a culture of complaint – perhaps we need to emphasise the positive and count our blessings.

During England's darkest World War II days, Winston Churchill said, "It is not sufficient to say we did our best, when what we need is to succeed." This thought is compelling today as the world faces some of the most pressing challenges in human history.

"Without a vision the people perish" says the Book of Proverbs in the Old Testament. A Chinese proverb also challenges: "When the winds of change blow, some build windmills while others build walls."

The narrative of equality of opportunity, which underpinned New Zealand's 20th century history, is of fundamental importance. This means recognising and nurturing the values and spiritual-moral dimension of our humanity. We will fly apart as a nation if we lose the fundamental direction summarised in the Golden Rule: "Do to others what you want them to do to you."

As a nation we have cautious optimism that good sense will normally prevail – that we are people who genuinely care about the future of everyone in our country. We all want the same things: economic opportunity and a continuing improvement in our quality of life.

Losing a young person to illiteracy or drugs is far more costly than losing a business deal. Robert Louis Stevenson once said, "Everybody, sooner or later, sits down to a banquet of consequences." The most serious consequences we face will result less from the obvious dangers than from the more subtle ones of wasted opportunities. Waste is a luxury we cannot afford. We need a highly educated population.

We are a nation of adventure takers who came here by canoe, ship and aircraft. We can build on this gene pool capability and interact with the world a lot more dynamically and positively!

As the year comes to an end gratitude and appreciation are extended to everyone associated with our Integrated Schools throughout New Zealand. Your hard work and dedication provide inspiration for our young people. Happy Holiday. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a blessed 2015.

Greetings

Dear colleagues, we wish you well for the weeks leading up to Christmas, and then for a well-deserved holiday break.

Nō reira, kia ora tātou. Kia hora te marino, kia whakapapa pounamu te moana, kia tere te kārohirohi.

Thank You for the Year

We extend a very warm thank you to everyone associated with our integrated schools, for the year's work that you have put in for the wellbeing of our students, our whole community of integrated schools and our nation.

New Zealand Catholic Education Convention 10-12 June 2015 – Horizons of Hope

Everyone is warmly invited to attend this convention. Our keynote presenters are Australian Therese D'Orsa of the Broken Bay Institute and Sr Gemma Simmonds CJ of London's Heythrop College. Many of the seminars and presentations could be of interest to those in the broader network of integrated schools. The convention website, <http://www.conference.co.nz/nzcec15/> gives more information. Registrations open in January 2015.

Accepting Preference Students onto the School Roll

Proprietors, principals and Boards of Trustees are reminded that schools are obliged to accept preference students providing the school role is not full, and providing the school will not become overcrowded as a result.

Investing in Educational Success Groupings

Several groupings of integrated schools are developing interactive structures, including a group in Rotorua involving John Paul College and its contributing schools. We wish them well in their work together.

Harmful Digital Communications Bill Valuable for Schools and Children

This Bill will assist schools to work on cyber safety. Now could be a good time to check that school policy is robust, and that it is properly implemented. The Ministry of Education's Bullying Guidelines are to be supplemented by a cyber-bullying resource.

Health and Safety Reform Bill

The Ministry of Education is establishing a sector-led working group to ensure that appropriate advice and guidance is available to schools before the Bill is passed into law. Schools that have good health and safety policies are likely to be well prepared for the legislation. A document with early guidance on the Bill is expected to be available from the Ministry of Education in December.

2015 Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards

Entries for the 2015 round of awards have opened, and will close on 20 March 2015. See www.pmawards.education.govt.nz.

Provisional Registration of Teachers

Principals and Boards of Trustees are reminded that provisionally registered teachers working in the schools may need to undertake a Teacher Education Refresh (TER) programme in order to obtain registration and a practising certificate. It would be useful to discuss this matter with them. For information go to www.teacherscouncil.govt.nz/ and look for Teacher Education Refresh TER programme.

Sleep Overs

Proprietors of boarding schools/school hostels are reminded to contact either APIS or NZSTA if they are approached by union representatives in relation to sleep overs. Hostel staff need to be aware that they are under no obligation to provide information about non-union staff members to union representatives.



Congratulations to:

Congratulations

Villa Maria College, Christchurch: The school choir, Vivace, won a gold award at the National NZCF Big Sing event. Sarah MacDonald was awarded a Young Writers French Exchange, to attend high school in France and give a speech in French at the Yèvres ceremony.

St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch: Izaak Beever and Josh Doocey both had outstanding results in the YCT Chinese Examination.

St Patrick's College, Wellington: Finn Lowndes received the inaugural Absolutely Positively Wellington Award, for his commitment to Wellington and the community, mainly as a member of Young Vinnies.

Rathkeale College, Masterton: The school won a National School of Character Award.

Hato Paora College, Feilding: The school won a National School of Character Award. Sonny Ngatai and Nikau Te Huki won the senior and junior English sections of the Ngā Manu Korero National Secondary Schools Speech Contest, the first time that students from the same school have won both these sections. (Sonny won the senior section for the second time.)

Hato Petera College, Auckland: The school is to open Tu Taua, a military-focused academy for senior students, in 2015. It is a partnership project sponsored by the college, the Ministry of Education and the Defence Force.

Marian Early Childhood Centre, Panmure: has just celebrated its 15th birthday.

Sancta Maria Montessori Preschool, Christchurch: has received a visit from Bishop Barry Jones, and Fr Antoine Thomas CSJ has celebrated Mass in the centre with the children.

Congratulations

- Principal Anne Miles, of McAuley High School, South Auckland, was the winner of the Westpac Women of Influence Award for Social Enterprise, for her work in enabling her decile 1 school to become a consistently high performing school.
- Finance Minister Hon Bill English and Wellington businessman Brian McGuinness were named joint winners of the Old Boy of the Year award by the St Patrick's College Old Boys Association. Mr English attended St Patrick's College Silverstream and Mr McGuinness attended St Patrick's College Wellington.

"A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination."

Nelson Mandela



KONICA MINOLTA

Education on the Waterview Road Tunnel, Auckland

Students of Marist College, Auckland, took part in a live audioconference with tunnel project engineers, and students of St Therese School, Three Kings, took a virtual field trip to the tunnel. See www.education.nzta.govt.nz/field-trips for information, videos and activities on Auckland roading and on the construction of the National War Memorial Park in Wellington (including the tunnel beneath it). Information about Alice the Tunnel Boring Machine is at the NZTA website or at facebook.com/AliceTBM. Animated artists' impressions of the National War Memorial Park are at www.mch.govt.nz/national-war-memorial-park.

Primary Teachers Going on OE – Teaching Opportunities

Primary teachers planning to go to England in the New Year may wish to know that Point to Point Education has four teaching positions in Catholic schools in Kent, Surrey, London and Essex, starting in January 2015, and more positions starting in April. For details contact Kate Liddell at kate@p2pe.com.au.

Did You Know?

www.inspiredbyU.org.nz continues to have new tributes from members of the community, thanking the teachers who have inspired them. It is a heart warming read.

Worth Reading

Leading Apple with Steve Jobs: Management Lessons from a Controversial Genius, by Jay Elliot, former Senior VP of Apple.

Leaving Microsoft to Change the World: An Entrepreneur's Odyssey to Educate the World's Children, by John Wood, Founder of Room to Read.



"I got expelled from home school."

Kia kaha, Kia māia, Kia ū!

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Donna Campbell, Financial Controller

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