

---

# New Zealand Catholic Education Office

Te Tari Mātauranga Katorika o Aotearoa

---

11<sup>th</sup> February 2015

- School Trustees
- Principals & Staff of New Zealand Catholic Schools

New Year Greetings!!

Ki ngā tumuaki, kaiako, poari me ngā matua, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou mō te wa nei.

- 1) The Board of NZCEO, the Office's staff and I, trust you have had a restful and relaxing holiday break.
- 2) We welcome you to the 2015 academic year and thank you for your dedicated work in 2014 on behalf of our nation's 66,000 young people in our 238 Catholic Schools. A new year is always full of promise and hope and this one is no exception.
- 3) You will possibly be aware that on the 29<sup>th</sup> January, I announced my resignation from the CEO role at the New Zealand Catholic Education Office. After twenty one enjoyable years in the role it is time to pass the ball to somebody else. It has been a wonderful journey to be able to work alongside committed good people like you, who make the system work. There is no doubt that the nation's Catholic Schools are in good shape, confident in themselves and clear about their reason for existence.
- 4) I thank you, most sincerely, for the active support you have shown for the Office and the services it delivers. It has been a great honour to have been able to work alongside you. THANK YOU!
- 5) The New Year Royal Honour that I have received is fundamentally an honour for the Church, its schools and the wider Integrated School sector. It is a humbling experience while also being a public recognition of the contribution the Integrated School sector makes to the well-being of New Zealand.
- 6) As we launch into the new school year my only message is to encourage you to continue the search for overall excellence with those in your care, and at the same time to do so in an unabashed manner within our Catholic faith and ethos framework.
- 7) The Office Staff and I look forward to meeting you at the Catholic Education Convention being held in Wellington on June 10-11-12<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Offering you support and very best wishes,

Sincerely,



Patrick J. Lynch KNZM  
Chief Executive Officer