



The start of 2005 has not seen a respite from the challenges the international community is facing. Hardly a day goes by without some incident involving terrorism, which brings tragedy to those involved and insecurity to many others. Despite all of this, our schools carry on as beacons of hope, seeking to build up the defences of peace and human well-being.

Education is about change. Progress always attends education, since it creates new ways of looking at things, extends knowledge, provides insights, challenges the status quo and enables individuals to grow and develop.

Teachers, principals, trustees, parents, priests and parish personnel hold a sacred trust to educate the young people in our schools. We build hope as we focus on the mind, body and spirit. We accept this multi faceted responsibility as people called to teach and live the Gospel.

As we start the new year, we can affirm that we are catalysts in the human growth in our students. We help fashion the beliefs, attitudes, values and behaviours of those in our charge.

We live out a sacred responsibility as we guide our young people in the ways of God, which are so at odds with the ways of terrorists and those who create mayhem in the world.

As the year progresses, the values, virtues, moral ideals and truth of our heritage will be threaded into the fabric of the work we do. We will provide wings for our students to 'fly well', as they move into adult life. Best wishes for a satisfying year, which will impact dramatically on the lives of the young people you touch.

Greetings

Ki ngā Tumuaki, Kaiako, Poari me ngā Matua, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou mō te wā nei

New Year greetings to you.

Catholic Scholarships Awarded

Congratulations to Brendan Schollum, Principal of Aquinas College, Tauranga and Kathy Moy, Principal of Holy Cross School, Henderson on the award of Catholic Leadership scholarships from the New Zealand Catholic Education Office. Kathy and Brendan will undertake further tertiary education and research, which will be of benefit to the Catholic education system as a whole.

Two New Schools Open

Congratulations to Principal Christine Smith, staff and community at Stella Maris Primary School, Silverdale, and to Principal Sue Jury, staff and community at St Claudine Thevenet School, Wainuiomata. St Claudine Thevenet opens as a result of the amalgamation of St Matthew's School, Wainuiomata and St Patrick's School, Wainuiomata.

Congratulations to Principals New to the Leadership of Catholic Schools

Br Steve Hogan, De La Salle College, Mangere East
Gina Bernade, St Pius X School, Glen Innes
Glen Ryan, Mary McKillop School, Mangere
Clare Massey, Bishop Edward Gaines School, Tokoroa
Annette Ormerod, St Patrick's School, Inglewood
Daniel Nicholls, St Patrick's School, Kaponga
Jacinta Simpson, San Antonio School, Eastbourne
Jo Buckley, St Bernadette's School, Naenae
David Lamont, St Joseph's School, Kaikoura
Carmel Chamberlain, St Mary's School, Kaikorai

St Joseph's School, Oamaru, Seeks a Principal

St Joseph's School, Oamaru, is advertising for a new principal. Phone (03) 434 8856 for an application pack. The closing date for applications is March 11th, 2005.

Seabed and Foreshore Catholic Submissions and Statements to the Select Committee

The submissions from 37 Catholic organisations and individuals on this issue have been brought together in one publication by Caritas. This would make a very useful resource for teachers and senior students. Copies cost \$6 from Caritas, PO Box 12193, Wellington, fax (04) 499 2519, email caritas@caritas.org.nz

'Land and Place' - Spirituality of Aotearoa New Zealand

The Catholic Institute of Theology's new collection of essays is available for \$35 plus p & p. Write to Catholic Institute of Theology, 16 Waterloo Quadrant, Auckland, email cit@auckland.ac.nz, fax (09) 379 6426, phone (09) 379 6424.

"The poor person is not the one who is without a cent, but the one who is without a dream."

HARRY KEMP

Sancta Maria College Receives Architecture Award

The NZ Institute of Architects has recently bestowed an award on Sancta Maria College for the design and finish of the school buildings. The school community and all those responsible for the buildings are congratulated.



"Well, the pressure has started. A man asked me yesterday what I want to be when I grow up."

Congratulations to Members of Our Catholic Community

Sr Denise Fox SM, recent Board member of NZCEO, who has been elected the Congregational Leader of Ngā Whaea Atawhai o Aotearoa Sisters of Mercy New Zealand. The new national structure takes effect from 29 June 2005.

Mary Cook, Principal of St Mary's College, Wellington, on her election as Chairperson of the Wellington Regional Secondary Principals' Association.

Kieran Fouhy, Principal of St Peter's College, Auckland, who has been awarded a Woolf Fisher Scholarship.

Bev Bradley and Sr Marie Poff who were honoured with NZ Catholic Primary Principals' Awards for outstanding service to Catholic school education.

St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie and Sacred Heart School Thorndon, which piloted 'Operation Christmas Child' for UNESCO, and filled hundreds of shoeboxes with children's gifts in two days.

St Peter Chanel School, Green Island, which celebrated its golden jubilee on 4-6 February.

Expanding Rolls in Catholic Schools - July 2004 Statistics

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| 900+ students | 6 schools |
| 800+ students | 6 schools |
| 700+ students | 4 schools |
| 600+ students | 8 schools |
| 500+ students | 6 schools |
| 400+ students | 18 schools |
| 300+ students | 18 schools |
| 200+ students | 51 schools |
| 100+ students | 74 schools |
| 50-99 students | 29 schools |
| 10-49 students | 18 schools |

Praise from the National Party Education Spokesman, Bill English

In his December newsletter, Bill English praised St James School, Aranui, Christchurch for its sheer "magic", and the choir of St Patrick's College, Wellington, Con Anima, for the boys' superb singing. Bonnie Allan-Moetaua, a former member of this choir, was the recipient of an Arts Pasifika Award in 2004.

Meeting of Principals of New Catholic Schools

Late last year principals of recently opened Catholic schools met for a day to discuss innovative ideas and actions for establishing and developing the Special Character in new Catholic schools. The day was exhilarating, and was yet another proof that there is excellent leadership and education in our Catholic schools.

Catholic Character Reviewers Impressed with Schools

In their second joint meeting for 2004 Catholic Character reviewers reiterated their delight in the high standards and strong Catholicity of the schools they reviewed in. They expressed their gratitude to all the schools that have welcomed them. The review process is now well established and is running smoothly.

Government Takes Action on Child Labour, Thanks to Catholic Schools

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand reports that, thanks in large part to those schools that took part in the Caritas survey of children's work and working conditions, the Department of Labour is now working to improve children's employment regulations and rights. Thank you to the schools involved.

New Special Character Qualification

A new graduate diploma of education course in the Special Character of Catholic schools, delivered by internet, is being offered through the University of Auckland. The course is approved to contribute to the G3+ qualification. A flyer is included with this posting. Contact k.wanden@auckland.ac.nz for more details.



KONICA MINOLTA

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia u.

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Pat Lynch | C.E.O. | |
| Maureen Condliffe | Operations Manager | |
| Susan Apáthy | Deputy C.E.O. | |
| Debbie Vreeburg | Adele Pedreschi | Wendy Rozenburg |

Lighting New Fires is published by the New Zealand Catholic Education Office, PO Box 12307, Wellington. Phone: 04 496 1739
fax: 04 496 1734 or email: nzceogs@xtra.co.nz
website: www.nzceo.catholic.org.nz