



NewsFirst|08

THE FIRST-TIME PRINCIPALS PROGRAMME

He Hōtaka mō ngā Tumuaki hou

MAY 2009

KIA ORA TATOU

Greetings to all first-time principals in the 2008 cohort of the First-time Principals Programme. We all hope this term is going well for you all.

This month's edition of NewsFirst08 is to keep you informed about the following:

ONLINE UPDATE

Grahame Aitken's online module 'Teaching Effectiveness' can be accessed either through the FTP page on LeadSpace or via the FTTP website

<http://www.firstprincipals.ac.nz/learning.htm>

This resource contains useful suggestions about how it may be used with your staff to promote insight into effective teaching.

SKYPE

Those of you who wish to practise Skype you can try by adding John Locke to your contacts john.locke77

ADMINISTRATION

Should your contact details change, please contact the Project Coordinator Yohei Guy, y.guy@auckland.ac.nz so that your contact details are kept current for programme information. It is important we have your correct email address on our database as almost all of our communication

with you outside of the residential courses is electronic. Thank you.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE FOR FIRST-TIME PRINCIPALS PROGRAMME COMPLETION

During your participation in the First-time Principals Programme you have been encouraged to complete all of the main components to be eligible to receive the new National Certificate for First-time Principals Programme Completion.

To be eligible to receive the Certificate, a first-time principal will:

- Completion of SALTALs 1, 2 and 3
- Completion of Residential Courses One and Two (full duration)
- Completion of the evaluation questionnaire, for Residential Courses One and Two.
- Completion of the mentoring programme activities
 - ✓ School-based visit 1
 - ✓ PLG 1
 - ✓ PLG 2
 - ✓ PLG 3
 - ✓ School-based visit 2
- A documented Professional Learning Plan (PLP)
- Completion of a portfolio demonstrating your progress in implementing your PLP goals, as confirmed by your mentor
- Viewing either of the online modules
 - Planning and Reporting
 - Teaching Effectiveness

2009 COHORT RESIDENTIAL TWO

We are currently planning the second residential course for the 2009 cohort of FTPs. New principals really appreciate hearing the stories of other new, but slightly more experienced, principals. We would like to highlight your successes in leading the learning of your teachers. Such stories are informative and encouraging for FTPs. Please spend a few moments reflecting about your FTTP induction experience.

- What have you learned about Principalship that has had an impact on the learning of your students?

If you have an interesting story to tell about raising student engagement and achievement in your school please contact Jill Lunn

j.lunn@auckland.ac.nz or myself j.locke@auckland.ac.nz.



The following digital resources from 2009 residential course I are available on the FTTP website

www.firstprincipals.ac.nz the pathway to the resources is:

Programme/ programme resources/2009 cohort/ residential course resources

The Keynote and plenary presentations include an audio podcast in addition to PowerPoints. You may like to try multitasking by listening to the audio podcast on your desktop at work or on your ipod when driving to work!

Keynote Presentations



Rt Hon Anne Tolley [Audio Podcast](#)

Apryll Parata - Creating Cultural Connections [Presentation \(pdf\)](#) [Audio Podcast](#)

Mark Treadwell – Whatever [Presentation \(pdf\)](#) [Audio Podcast](#)

John Edwards - The Principal as the Leading Learner [Presentation \(pdf\)](#) [Audio Podcast](#)

Plenary Session Presentations



Dr Graham Stoop and Carol Mutch - 'What Works' and Making it Work for you [Presentation \(pdf\)](#) [Audio Podcast](#)

Lester Flockton - The Revised New Zealand Curriculum: Directions, Connections and Conundrums [Audio Podcast](#)

Option Session/Case Study Presentations

Carolyn Stuart - Leading ICT Developments in ways that Enhance Teaching and Learning [Presentation \(ppt\)](#)

Christine Rubie-Davies - Expecting More and Delivering More: How can Teachers Enhance Student Performance? [Presentation \(ppt\)](#)

Susan Impey - Implementing the Key Competencies at Alfriston College [Presentation \(ppt\)](#)

Peter Verstappen - How to Implement the New Zealand Curriculum: Practice and Pitfalls [Presentation \(ppt\)](#)

Elaine Hines - Effective Governance and Management: The What, Why and How Explained [Presentation \(ppt\)](#)

Peter Simpson - Professional Leader? [Presentation \(ppt\)](#)

REFLECTIONS OF A FIRST TIME PRINCIPAL
Dawn Fenn, Principal of Ridgeview Primary School shares her thoughts as she nears the end of the 2008 FTP programme.

You know you're making headway when...

It's been a long time since your partner sent you an email entitled 'Remember Me?'

You accept that people come first and try not to worry too much about the ever increasing tower of paper on your desk.

You don't have any qualms about asking for help

You realise the implications of leading a 'self managing' school.

You genuinely understand; effect size, variance and banked staffing.

You no longer put things off until tomorrow - sleep is far too important!

You find yourself speaking passionately about your vision at Board meetings

You have complete clarity about where your school is heading, but for now you're taking pleasure in the small steps (and congratulating yourself on the patience you didn't think you had).

You mumble under your breath about how much more manageable the job would be if you didn't want strategic change...but also how unrewarding

You don't worry quite so much about what is going to come out of your mouth during public functions.

You quietly insist on parents divulging what they want to meet you about - the suspense no longer thrills you!

You realise that letting staff debate and talk openly and frankly about data, current research and best practice can get a bit hairy at times, but it's well worthwhile to go with it.

You accept that your day's 'To Do' list will need to be flexible enough to accommodate the needs of your school community
You come to the conclusion that hard conversations are now a way of life (and Model II has become part of your psyche)
You still spend some of your time impersonating a duck (forever calm on the surface while paddling like mad underneath)

You have a box full of accident forms under your desk for all the times you've bitten your tongue.

You go home after mentally checking you've spoken of every member of staff during the day
And you realise that the true meaning of life really is 0.07!

FAREWELL TO



Sadly we are saying farewell our Project Assistant Gavin Hirst (a keen ABs fan) who is moving back to Huddersfield in the UK. Gavin has been with the FTPP since August 2008 starting as a temp before being offered the position of Project Assistant to both the FTPP and Centre for Educational Leadership. Gavin tackled this demanding role with complete

dedication, constantly performing in excess of expectations. We wish him all the best and hope to see him back where the skies are blue soon.

WELCOME TO

We are pleased to welcome Donna Kerkmeester to the FTPP project team who will be assuming the role of Project Assistant.



Donna is currently completing a diploma in Event Management at

AUT. She comes from a strong PA/Administration background and as a mother of three, has an embedded interest and understanding of the school system in New Zealand.

Ka kite ano

**John Locke (Director) & the
First-time Principals
Programme Project Team**

