

# NewsFirst | 09

THE FIRST-TIME PRINCIPALS PROGRAMME

He Hōtaka mō ngā Tumuaiki hou

FEBRUARY 2009

## KIA ORA TATOU

Greetings and best wishes for your new Principalship and also for a highly enjoyable and successful 2009.

This newsletter will provide some basic information to help you get started in the First-time Principals Programme and also give you one or two things to ponder about.

## RESIDENTIAL COURSES

Please enter into your 2009 diaries the dates and location of the two residential courses.

### Residential One:

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2009 to  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2009 – Auckland  
(3 days)**

### Residential Two:

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 to  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 -  
Auckland (2 days)**

## RESIDENTIAL COURSE ONE

This course entitled *Starting Your Leadership* has been designed to develop your capability to lead learning in your school. Particular attention has been paid to the impact of the new New Zealand Curriculum on your role and responsibilities in 2009.

Our keynote speakers will deliver complimentary messages about the Leadership of Teaching and Learning.

**Apyll Parata** will focus attention on ways of ensuring that our students with some of the greatest untapped potential (Maori) benefit from their experience of school.



**John Edwards** will explain how the vision is transformed into a reality.



**Mark Treadwell** will explore new curriculum, pedagogy and the digital world



The Keynote sessions are supported by workshops and case studies. In addition you will be able to select from a range of optional sessions designed to meet specific interests or requirements.

The residential will also provide a wonderful opportunity to network with other principals.

Please watch out for the email about flight and accommodation arrangements to be sent out later in the month.

## FIRST-TIME PRINCIPALS PROGRAMME SUPPORT MATERIAL

Detailed information on the First-time Principals Programme (FTPP) will be posted to you by the end of this month. This will be in the form of printed content and labelled dividers. Please place these in a ring binder or lever arch file dedicated for the FTPP. Over the next eighteen months these dividers will enable you to collect and keep track of the material linked to the main components of the programme. Most of the information you receive from us will be digital. We suggest that you store the digital files in a folder on your laptop/desktop. Within this folder we suggest the following titles for sub folders:

- Administration
- Residential Courses
- Mentoring Programme
- Portfolio
- Online Learning

- Research and Assessments
- Professional Readings
- NewsFirst 09
- Miscellaneous

## SALTAL

This is the acronym for a questionnaire - Self Assessment for the Leadership of Teaching and Learning. This provides the basis for much of the FTTP. It is a baseline survey that will be used to focus your energy on the areas in which you and your mentor feel it would be advantageous to concentrate your attention.

The questionnaire should be completed by you ONLINE via the FTTP website [www.firstprincipals.ac.nz](http://www.firstprincipals.ac.nz) as soon as possible. It is accessed in the FTTP website under the 'Research' heading button on the blue left hand toolbar. For further instructions please refer to the Welcome Edition NewsFirst09. When completed and sent you will receive an automated email summarising your responses, please **print two copies** of this and send one to your mentor. It will be used by you and your mentor to prepare your Professional Learning Plan (PLP) during the first School Based Visit.



## ALLOCATION OF MENTORS

The process to allocate mentors has begun.

The FTTP team will send you an email that includes your mentor's biography and their contact details.

Your mentor will be making contact with you during February or early March. One of the first things you will do together is to arrange the

date for the initial mentoring activity, the first **School Based Visit**. At this time your mentor will spend a day with you working through a range of activities that will help to establish the direction of your professional development.



## MENTORING SUPPORT

Your mentor has been contracted to provide regular ongoing support for you. This support can be done via the telephone, Skype or email.

If you need assistance, no matter the size of the issue, we ask you to contact your mentor. They enjoy their role and gain immense satisfaction from the knowledge that they can be of help.

If you have a concern about your mentoring programme or mentor you should confidentially contact either the Director (John Locke) [j.locke@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:j.locke@auckland.ac.nz) if you are a secondary principal or the Associate Director (Jill Lunn) if you are a Maori medium or primary principal [j.lunn@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:j.lunn@auckland.ac.nz)

## MENTORS' TRAINING

We are fortunate to have the services of expert and experienced Principals who are keen to be mentors. At the end of January mentors attended training here in Auckland. The focus of the training is on the development of skills that will both support and extend First-time Principals.



## BOT CHAIRPERSON AND MOE LETTER

Attached to the email that will notify you of your mentor will be copies of two letters sent to your BOT Chairperson.

In the first letter we ask your BOT Chairperson to consider the goals you set in the FTTP to be those for your 2009 annual appraisal. The rationale behind this letter is to reduce the pressure on you by only having one set of goals each year.

## IS THIS YOUR SCHOOL?

School A



School B



If you think you recognize your place please email [j.locke@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:j.locke@auckland.ac.nz)

## MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Recently the Hon Anne Tolley spoke at The University of Auckland about the Government's educational priorities. The main points of her speech are summarised below.

The minister began her comments by pointing out that the limited educational resources available to the government would be targeted at the following areas

### Raising numeracy and literacy rates of primary school students

- National standards will be developed that describe expectations of what students should achieve and by when
- Schools will be expected to report this information to parents in clear language that states what children can do
- No single assessment or assessment system will be mandated. The objective is to use existing tools to encourage consistent practice directed towards standards as a benchmark
- Assessment will be used to provide feedback to support student learning and teacher effectiveness

### Reducing underachievement (the 'long tail' of 20% = 150,000 students)

- Early identification
- Use of assessment techniques to change teaching practice
- Raising expectations about the engagement of all students

### Education Review Office

- Schools with good performance and capable of self review will be visited by ERO every 5 years.



## VISIBLE LEARNING

**Professor John Hattie has recently published a new book: VISIBLE LEARNING**

- a synthesis of over 800 meta-analyses relating to achievement

VISIBLE LEARNING presents research involving many millions of students and represents the largest ever collection of evidence-based research into what actually works in schools to improve learning.

Publisher: Routledge, London and New York

## PODCASTS

Here are some interesting podcasts from a website called [www.TED.com](http://www.TED.com)

[http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/gever\\_tulley\\_on\\_5\\_dangerous\\_things\\_for\\_kids.html](http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/gever_tulley_on_5_dangerous_things_for_kids.html)

Gever Tulley talks about the five important and dangerous things that all children should do.

[http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/ken\\_robinson\\_says\\_schools\\_kill\\_creativity.html](http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/ken_robinson_says_schools_kill_creativity.html)

Sir Ken Robinson explains why creativity and collaboration should be a greater part of the school curriculum

[http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/jillbolte\\_taylor\\_s\\_powerful\\_stroke\\_of\\_insight.html](http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/jillbolte_taylor_s_powerful_stroke_of_insight.html)

Jill Bolte Taylor provides real clarity about the significance of differences between the right and left side of the brain.

[http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/mihaly\\_csikszentmihalyi\\_on\\_flow.html](http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/mihaly_csikszentmihalyi_on_flow.html)

Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi has coined the term 'flow' to describe his insights into workload and job satisfaction

## CENTRE FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

**presents Andy Hargreaves** The Fourth Way: the inspiring future of educational change

ANDY HARGREAVES (Professor, Boston College, USA) is renowned as one of the world's leading presenters and writers on educational leadership and change. In his new seminar, he draws from diverse international research and case studies in schools and communities. Andy's thought provoking and inspiring presentation focuses on how educational leaders successfully bring about lasting improvements and sustainable growth. He proposes a bold and better 'fourth way' for change in education by putting educators themselves at the leading edge of change to regenerate and improve society.

Join Andy Hargreaves at what will be one of New Zealand's most talked about 2009 education events!

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Time: 8.30am to 3.30pm

Venue: Centra Auckland Airport

Cost \$250

This event is being run in partnership with NZEALS – for all booking information for this event **only** please visit <http://www.nzeals.org.nz/fourth-way.htm>. For all other events, please visit [www.education.auckland.ac.nz/uacel](http://www.education.auckland.ac.nz/uacel)

**Ka kite ano**

**John Locke and the FTTP project team**