



Tena Koutou Katoa

## Selwyn Supporting Christchurch



Students selling cookies outside the Special Education Unit

This week our students and staff have been dedicated in their efforts to support those affected by the earthquake in Christchurch. On Tuesday at 12.51pm, following the ringing of a special bell, every class throughout the school joined the nation in falling silent for two minutes to show our caring and support of all those families tragically affected by the tumultuous quake.

The Whanaungatanga Student Council, and our Special Education Unit have been enthusiastically baking and selling cakes and cookies at Break times. Naturally, they have been very well supported!



Students wearing Canterbury colours red and black

In addition, our Student Executive planned a special Canterbury mufti day encouraging every student to wear the Canterbury colours of red and black to school today and to make a hearty gold coin donation. I am delighted to say the turn out and level of support has been spectacular!



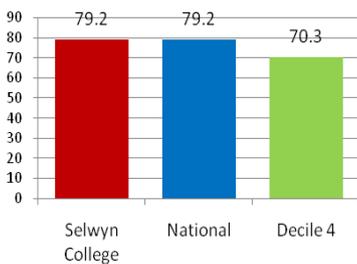
Staff members supporting the Christchurch Earthquake Fund Appeal

## Selwyn Staff are Avid Learners

The photo on the right, of Selwyn teachers was taken during Wednesday morning professional development this week, which runs from 8.40 – 9.40am. The staff were working in Year 9 core class groups interpreting the e-AsTTle results and devising a special literacy plan for each class with strategies they will use in common to promote students' reading and writing skills. We appreciate hugely the support of our community in enabling this important learning opportunity for our teachers to take place every Wednesday morning throughout the year.



### Level 2 2010

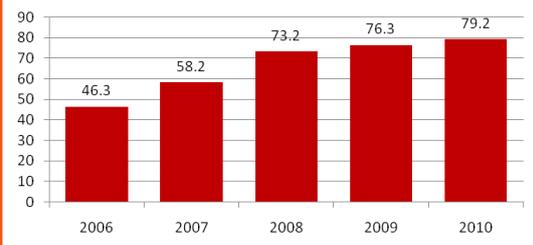


## More on Our Story of

### Academic Success

We are delighted with the NCEA results of last year's Year 12 students in NCEA. As you will note in the graphs below, our students performance at Level 2 continues to track up with a 4%

### Level 2



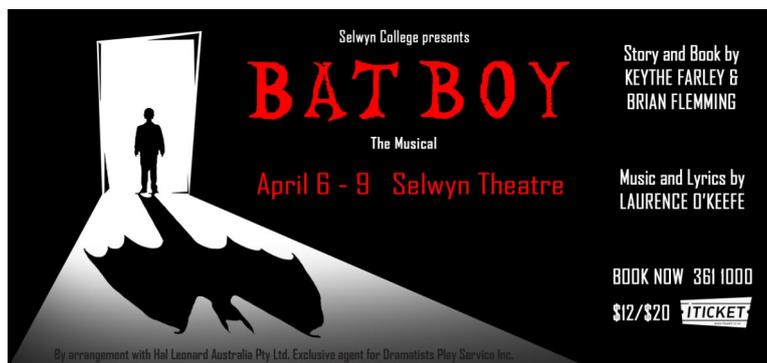
improvement in the overall pass rate between 2009 and 2010 and a massive 71% pass rate between 2006 and 2010. This year's Level 2 students have a huge challenge before them as we are committed to sustaining this trend! It was also pleasing to see that our students equalled the national pass rate for Level 2 and well and truly surpassed the pass rate for other Decile 4 schools.



## Upcoming Sports Events

There are two teams of students training for inter-school championships, to be held in the next fortnight. Firstly, a swimming squad, who will compete on Wednesday 9 March; and secondly, an athletics team who will compete at the Eastern Zones on Tuesday 15 March. We wish them well.

At the end of this month, on Tuesday 29 March, we will be holding a House Day at Mt Smart Stadium. All students will be taking part and information about this day will be sent home next week. There will be a wide range of competitive and novelty events for students to choose.



## 2011 School Musical

Rehearsals are well underway for the 2011 Selwyn College musical, with students learning songs with singing tutor, Hilary Nobes, musicians working with Head of Music, Sonja Montgomery, and the lead characters are delving into the story with Head of Performing Arts, Duncan Allan.

Tickets will go on sale later this month, through iticket.

## What Parents Need to Do When their Student is Absent

When a student is absent from school for any reason parents/caregivers are to:

- phone the school office 5219610 prior to 8am and follow the answer-phone instructions or -
- email a message to the office using the address: [gunasekaraa@selwyn.school.nz](mailto:gunasekaraa@selwyn.school.nz)
- give the student a note to explain their absence on the first day of their return which includes: the student's full name and mentor group, reasons and a legible version of the parent's name as well as the parent's signature, date and absence date.
- where absence is known in advance the school should be phoned or emailed beforehand.
- appointments for the dentist, doctor and other personal matters should be made outside school hours whenever possible. Make sure students have a note or appointment card in order to obtain a "Leave Pass" to leave school during the day. If you receive an absence alert (text message or e-mail) please get in touch with us.



## SELWYN COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Places are still available in these courses starting next week 7—9th March

- Buying and Selling a House (helpful hints from an independent expert)
- Reiki Introduction—a DIY tool for maintaining good health
- Writing for Publicity and the Media
- Xero—Web based accounting
- Managing your Money: Sharemarket

### Weekend courses:

Saturday 19th and 26th March

See our website

[www.selwyncomed.school.nz](http://www.selwyncomed.school.nz)

for details and enrolling, or phone 521 9623



Join our popular evening or our new early Saturday morning yoga classes