
Editorial

S*et: Research Information for Teachers* is constantly evolving as we bring you articles that address contemporary issues in education and touch on the areas that concern you. We are committed to making new research accessible to you. This commitment is shared by our authors who see *set* as one of their key means of making their findings available to teachers.

This issue is no exception. Two key topics at present are perceived increases in levels of violence in schools and student engagement. Juliana Raskauskas adds to the body of research on bullying and suggests possible strategies for prevention, while Anne Smith comments on the negative effects for children of physical punishment which can affect their levels of aggression and other aspects of their behaviour. She also points to the need for children's voices to be heard: to treat them as "experts in their own lives".

The power of the student voice is picked up by Lesley Tait and Sarah Martin as they describe the directions that listening to students gave to their school-wide decision making. Further student perceptions are revealed by Craig Steed, Jenny Poskitt, and Alison Kearney in their report on student perspectives on teacher questioning; and also by Sally Boyd as she discusses student views of their experiences of transition from secondary school. Insights into student ideas about learning are also contained in a new release from NZCER Press, *The Hidden Lives of Learners* written by Graham Nuthall. Teachers will be fascinated by the student voices that speak on the pages of this book, and what their voices tell us about student learning in classroom settings. At the launch of this book, Prime Minister, Helen Clark, commented on the relevance of Graham Nuthall's work to current thinking about personalised learning: "Personalising learning shifts the focus from the institution or the system to the students, placing their learning in the context of their identity, experiences, and interactions with peers, teacher, and family".

In this issue of *set* we are pleased to announce a new service for you: one that will provide more resource for your professional development programme and that will relate current research to current education issues that are highlighted in the media. Each month we will provide a free download of a topical journal article. And as well, these articles are free to copy. Look for them on our website www.nzcer.org.nz

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