



12 December 2018

Dear parents and caregivers,

## **Trinity Schools Trust Board - a year in review - 2018**

If there were a Word of the Year, then in 2018 that word would be *'Wellbeing'*. Increasingly in our modern, secular world, young people are facing pressures which are affecting their health and wellbeing – affecting their ability to learn and to achieve their potential.

We want to create an environment that enables wellness – one that allows staff and students in our Schools to thrive. In essence it is our Anglican-faith based values which are fundamental to our Special Character that create this environment – both in terms of how our system operates and our strategic direction.

This year the Trinity Schools Trust Board (TSTB), in consultation with our Schools and their Boards of Trustees, reviewed our Strategic Plan. From these deliberations we have developed a new Strategy – one that builds on the success of working 'Together as One' and stays true to our Special Character. Our new vision is to enable an Anglican faith-based environment that enables everyone in the system to achieve their best self. Our role is to support the Trinity family of Schools to deliver excellence – spiritually, socially, culturally and academically. This approach will direct our thinking and decisions around resourcing and investment going forward.

You are most welcome to request a copy of our new Strategy (e-mail: [info@trinityschools.nz](mailto:info@trinityschools.nz)) or discuss it with any member of the TSTB Board.



### **Trinity Schools Trust Board (TSTB)**

During the year we farewelled Leanne Allen-Jones after more than four years as a Board member and Proprietor Representative on the Rathkeale College Board of Trustees (BoT). At the end of 2018, Esther Dijkstra will retire from the Board after nearly 7 years. Esther was a Parish-appointed Board member and also served six years on the Hadlow BoT.

We welcomed Vanessa Dudley and Matthew Bassett to the Board this year. They will bring strong commercial and property skills to our team. We acknowledge May Croft who continues on our Board as the Bishop's Representative after nearly 8 years of service.

Trinity Schools Trust Board members in November 2018 include Denise Beazley (Board Chair), Mike Shaw (Board Deputy Chair), Esther Dijkstra, Matt Hood, May Croft, Richard Baker, Lisa Rossiter, David Hancock, Matthew Bassett and Vanessa Dudley. All of our Board representatives are volunteers and we want to acknowledge and thank them for their time and contribution.

### **Principals**

In April we welcomed Martin O'Grady as Rathkeale Principal and in July we welcomed Andrew Osmond as Hadlow Principal. The recruitment of a new Principal is arguably the most important responsibility for any Board member during their tenure. We thank all those from the respective BoTs and TSTB for their involvement in the process and also Rob Blackett for coordinating both recruitment processes. Our Schools are very fortunate to have employed two such experienced, committed and enthusiastic Principals.

We farewelled Willy Kersten in April after 10 years as Rathkeale Principal. During his time the School progressed significantly and the roll reached capacity. Michael Mercer left Hadlow after nearly 23 years as Principal and a further eight years as Deputy Principal. Michael was synonymous with Hadlow, particularly as he lived onsite. The School and TSTB are greatly indebted to him and all he did over the last 31 years.

### **Hadlow Preschool**

In December we will farewell two long-serving Preschool teachers; Jenny Payton after 25 years (including a significant period as Head Teacher) and Brenda Jones after 18 years. Their service has ensured that our Preschool has continued to develop and attract new students every year. We thank them both for all their hard work during their respective tenures.

Niki Ladd has undertaken the Hadlow Preschool Head Teacher role during 2018 while Annabel Wyeth was on maternity leave. Niki has done a wonderful job and was recently successful in obtaining a permanent teaching role at the Preschool from the beginning of 2019.

### **TSTB Staff**

The TSTB staff includes a centralised finance team who provide all the transactional, payroll, accounting and financial support to our Schools. Sherry Garrity has rejoined the team on a part-time basis and will be responsible for non-teacher payroll services. Stability in our finance team is important and all other staff continue in their roles. In January 2019, Diana Trubshoe will celebrate 25 years as a member of the Trinity Schools staff. This is a significant milestone and we thank her for all her hard work and leadership during that time.

The TSTB management team includes Rob Blackett as Chief Executive Officer and Kim Whiteman as Senior Advisor. This year they were joined by Brian James as Trinity Schools Property Manager, who transferred from Rathkeale College. Between Rob, Kim and Brian they are responsible for property, finance, policy, facility hire, Special Character, Hadlow Preschool and everything in between. They work closely with the TSTB Board, the BoTs and the Principals.

## Sustainable Infrastructure

One of the most visible ways parents, students and the community can see the work of TSTB in collaboration with the Schools is through investment in our facilities. 2018 has seen us progress a large number of projects in line with our 10 year plan.

Earthquake strengthening work has continued this year, but with a much lower level of investment. Projects have included St Matthew's Hampton House Portico and Rathkeale's Rugby House (addressing an unreinforced concrete block wall). Additional assessments and design plans have also been completed during 2018.

Other significant projects have included;

Hadlow – Refurbishment of the Principal's House and Sedgley, Dining Hall kitchen upgrade, carpark safety  
St Matthew's - Turf replacement, 8 additional boarding beds in Main House, boarding house mattresses  
Rathkeale – Gym floor replacement, Dining Hall chair replacement, boarding house mattresses  
Preschool – Heating, floor and ceiling insulation.

Further projects are planned for the Christmas holidays when the School sites are largely vacant.



## Looking Forward

The Tomorrow's Schools Independent Taskforce have recently released their recommendations and public consultation has commenced. The Government have also signalled that they will be undertaking a Review of State Integrated Schools in 2019 and we look forward to assisting them where required on this project.

Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary teachers are working through negotiations with the Government around their Collective Agreements. While Primary and Secondary discussions continue, there is potential that we could be faced with combined Primary and Secondary strikes in Term 1, 2019, unless agreement can be reached.

As a Board, we will be focused on the implementation of our new strategy and ensuring it delivers the benefits we envisage – allowing everyone in our Trinity System to achieve their best self.

We welcome input from our wider community into the continued success of our Trinity family of Schools. Feel free to talk to any member of the Board if you have questions or ideas.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Beazley".

Denise Beazley  
TSTB Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Blackett".

Rob Blackett  
Chief Executive Officer