



**Huntley School**  
MARTON, NEW ZEALAND



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**



## HUNTLEY SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR REPORT

After a fantastic swimming sports back in March, it felt like an eternity before we were all back together at Huntley enjoying watching the students participate in the Cross Country or Junior plays.

The Covid lockdown certainly provided many operational, educational and financial challenges for the school. I was extremely proud with how the school dealt with all of these complex and never before seen issues. Thanks must go Mr Edwards and the senior management team, the PFH and the BOT for their time and efforts in developing policies that would support our whole school community during what was a very uncertain time.

I would like to take this opportunity to also thank Mr Edwards and our wonderful staff for delivering such a comprehensive remote learning program during the lock downs at Levels 3 and 4. Over this period many of us developed a greater appreciation for the difficult and at times challenging aspects that a teaching career entails.

In Term 2 the Board and SMT completed a strategic review session led by education strategy specialist Mr Garry Carnachan. This was an opportunity to reconnect, reaffirm, review and reset our strategic plan through to the end of 2021. Mr Carnachan was extremely impressed with the “high level of interest and engagement” by the Board and senior management team.

The updating and digitising of our school and Board policy and procedural documentation has been recently completed. Our new Sweet Process program ensures that our processes are a ‘living document’ that forms an interactive part of the management of Huntley School. This has been a massive project and I would like to thank all those that have been involved in completing this task.

In term three I was lucky enough to attend the Year 8 production. The talent of our students continues to amaze me and all those that were in the audience that night. As Mr Wood pointed out, the Year 8’s, like all our students, have to juggle school work, academic testing, sport practices and sporting exchanges with hours of play practice, with this work schedule and Covid lockdowns all of our students have displayed an incredible amount of resilience this year and should be extremely proud of their efforts, no students in living memory have had as a disruptive year as you all experienced. This experience and the Huntley values that you have all lived and breathed over recent years will ensure that this year’s Year 8’s will enter high school well equipped to handle any challenge that secondary school may present. To the Year 8 parents I would like to thank you for your support over recent years, for some of you it marks the end of a very long association with the school.

Tenders for the new dorm entry project closed in mid-June and construction is well underway. We have been held up somewhat by the weather and the Marton clay, but have been assured that there will be no major disruptions to Boarding early in term 1 next year. This important project is a critical piece in the schools strategy mentioned earlier and after careful financial planning, will be funded via several revenue streams. I would like to thank Mr Edwards and Annabel Whisker, with help from Jenni Giblin, Sarah McVerry and Katie Gilmore for creating and implementing our 90 Sleeps fund raising program, to date this initiative has raised over \$70,000. Our 10 year capital works program continued over the year with various maintenance tasks and capital items completed and purchased.

The success, strength and development of Huntley school is dependent on the roll and the roll is very much dependent on the strength of the school, we can't have one without the other. 2021 looks like a very exciting and potentially a break out year. With a starting role approaching 140 and the potential of reaching 150 students during the year, a long held school and board goal is within reach. However bigger does not automatically guarantee better. We know that we have to keep delivering and improving on the Huntley traditions of exceptional teaching and learning and instilling the values that we all appreciate and expect from a Huntley education.

With what has been a very different and at times challenging year, I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all our dedicated staff, our parents and caregivers, our incredible PFH, who have generously donated \$100k to the dorm project and recently made a fantastic investment in a new phone system for the boarders, our Endowment Trust, the Old Boys and Girls association and the Board, including Cath Cranstone who joined the Board during the year, for all your efforts - Huntley school is a very special place, because of all the work and support of these very special people.

With that being said I think it would be remiss of myself not to ask all Huntley staff in attendance today to please stand. In my position I get to witness and discuss with Mr Edwards every week, the dedication that this group of people show to the students of Huntley school.

Thanks again to all of you for your continued support of our special school. I wish you a safe and happy Christmas break and look forward to seeing many of you back at Huntley during 2021.



Duncan Johnston  
Board Chair

## HEADMASTER'S PRIZE GIVING SPEECH

Today signals the formal conclusion to the 2020 school year and what a challenging year it has been. We started with a glorious Summer where our students began the year with great enthusiasm, getting back into routines, learning in the classroom, playing tennis, cricket and triathlon and enjoying the annual school Family Day and Swimming Sports. It would be fair to say it was a good start to the year until we were hit with the COVID-19 pandemic that forced us into lockdown.

We have a proud tradition of overcoming adversity at Huntley. The school has been through two World Wars and a Polio epidemic as well as other challenges such as droughts, floods, global financial crises, the norovirus and most recently the All Blacks losses to Argentina and Australia.

COVID-19 put our resilience to the test. This was a time when our Huntley Values came to the fore. This year we started working with the New Zealand Institute of Wellbeing and Resilience and being forced into a life in lockdown certainly tested our resilience. Learning to get along with siblings and parents in close quarters coupled with the loss of freedom to do normal things such as shopping, visiting friends or family, attending school events and even duck shooting was postponed. We all had to process the uncertainties that came with Level 4 and the unknown future that lay ahead.

Just as we had developed routines that fitted our different family dynamics in these unusual times, we moved to remote learning where students were required to learn at home using online resources. There was a variety of home learning spaces from desks in bedrooms, working at the kitchen table and even a hay bale in a paddock. Our teachers also had to be flexible and dynamic. They were thrust into digital teaching using Google Classroom and an array of other digital programmes such as Zoom, to explicitly teach small groups, hold one to one sessions or whole class meetings. We have such a talented and hard working teaching team at Huntley who did an outstanding job throughout the lockdown showing creative and critical thinking skills as well as remaining flexible and fluid. While our students undertook remote learning, we made sure to temper this with outside activity and service projects around the home. We also kept in touch with you all via Facebook which proved to be an effective way of communicating.

I am pleased to announce that 2020 has seen us meet our academic targets in reading, writing and maths. We also continue to outperform national norms across all PAT assessments. Our science, in particular, remains an outstanding base for students heading onto Secondary School thanks to the well-rounded programme our science specialist Mr Buys provide.

I am proud of the way our school community showed resilience in the face of adversity throughout this year by getting on with life, remaining calm, pushing ahead and keeping on rowing the boat that is life.

Upon returning to school, we have kept on rowing and managed to fit in school events such as the South Island Tour, Golf Day, Cross Country, Plays, Triathlon and Grandparents Day, to name a few. Therefore it is appropriate that we are gathered here today as an entire community to celebrate the achievements and successes of our students. To the students in the junior years who have just begun their educational journey in the Huntley system, all the

way to those in Year 8 who have one foot out the door, eagerly awaiting the next stage of their education, it is fitting to complete the year recognising the huge contribution and many successes you have achieved academically, culturally or on the sports field, as well as acknowledging the very real service and citizenship that you have provided.

The contribution, achievements and successes of our students throughout the year have been exceptional. However, life isn't fair, and there will be some students who miss out on a prize today. My message to you is move on quickly and focus on your next goal. An award doesn't define your life nor does it define your character so keep your head held high.

I would like to record my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the following people for their enthusiasm and support during 2020.

I would like to thank my Head Prefects Henry Speedy and Maddie Stephenson who have led with integrity and lead by example along with their team of Gold Badges, Tyla Worsley-Darragh, Meg Speedy, Austin Williams, Matty Leary and Diego Coleman. Our meetings were fun, stimulating and challenging and I always looked forward to them. You have been an inspirational group and superb role models to all of the students in the school. Henry was always humble, Maddie always kind and full of humour, Tyla was the voice of reason, Meg a pocket rocket of enthusiasm, Diego was a straight shooter, Austin the sensible one and Matty was always very perceptive. Thank you all for a great year.

I am fortunate to have such a great team. Teachers, boarding staff, administration, grounds, kitchen and cleaning staff all work together to make our school what it is and for that I am extremely thankful.

Thank you to Gareth Wood for your relentless commitment to raising student achievement across all of the five pillars, your hard work and commitment to the cause. Also thank you to Katharine, Amelia and Maisie Wood for sharing your husband and father with us as I know what a big commitment Huntley School is.

Thank you to Barbara Pratt who has completed many years of outstanding service to Huntley School. Miss Pratt continues to be invaluable with her depth of knowledge and sense of tradition about all things Huntley.

Andrew Reynolds-Rowe, Director of Sport and Alison Stewart, Director of Music have been unstinting in their help and are always going the extra mile in their respective areas.

Thank you, Kitty Moore, for your fiscal management of the school financials. Someone needs to balance the books and keep everything in order.

Thank you Ingrid McDonald for being that warm and welcoming person in the front office. First impressions count and families, whether current or prospective, always comment on your helpfulness and positivity. Nothing is a hassle.

This year we farewell Jenny Benoit from the kitchen. Jenny has completed 24 years service to the school and we wish her all the best for her next chapter where she will enjoy getting her weekends back and seeing more of her grandchildren. I'm sure Alex has a few farm jobs lined up for her also.

I would like to thank the Board of Trustees for their dedication and hard work. I would like to personally thank Duncan Johnston, who has continued to support me throughout the year. He is always on the end of the phone and what you don't see is how thorough he is with governance and leadership and he does his best thinking when he's in the cow shed. I look forward to continuing to work with him and members of the Board of Trustees in moving Huntley forward. We have a brilliant Board of Trustees and I thank them all for their investment in Huntley School's future.

The Parent's and Friends' Association under the Chairmanship of Mrs Billie Darragh has raised a very large sum of money and added value to our school. Billie has been a calm and considered chairperson of the PFH. She is focused on the needs of our children and I thank her and her secretary Cath Cranstone and now Meg Gloyn, Treasurer Fiona Morton and meeting regulars.

I would also like to thank all the parents who have supported their child's Huntley education and our school's ethos once again this year. We do rely on and appreciate your support.

I thank my wife Becks for her unfailing support and like-minded devotion to the school. Becks is very much a part of the Huntley family and her ability to find time for so many students amidst the hectic demands from our own family is a source of admiration to me. She is my critic and nurturer all rolled into one and I couldn't do it without her.

To the Year Eights. YOU have added value to the 2020 school year. You have risen to the challenge and have contributed in so many ways to the many successes achieved. Whether this has been in the classroom, on the sports field or in the cultural arena of school life, your leadership, contribution and service has been appreciated. You are well-prepared for the next level of your education and you can move forward with confidence and enthusiasm to make the most of the opportunities that lie ahead.

Becks and I take this opportunity to extend Season's Greeting to you all. Our best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday and a New Year filled with happiness and good health.

I finish the 2020 academic year today very grateful for the support given in so many ways by so many of you to ensure the School keeps going from strength to strength.

We look forward to your child's return on either Sunday 31st January or Monday 1st February.



Sam Edwards  
Headmaster

## ***Academically***



### **Oral Assessments**

60% of our school was awarded highly commended or distinction for their Oral Assessments.

### **Book Week**

This was an extremely successful event that started with a “Costumes and Character’s Day”. We had author Stu Duval come and tell stories to the whole school, hold a Cartoon and writing Workshop. We also held the annual Squad Book Quiz.

### **Book Quiz Results**

Year 3-6 - Rix-Trott, Year 7 - Rix Trott, Year 8 - Stromborn

Kids’ Lit Quiz

Huntley entered two teams. The A team won the Small Schools Competition and came 4th overall. The B Team gained a respectable 7th place.

### **Reading Programme**

Granny Readers have once again been invaluable with this programme.

10 Grannies have read with 21 different students throughout the year.

### **Public Speaking Competition**

Another successful Huntley Public Speaking Contest was held in Term 4. Congratulations to all the students who competed, the standard was extremely high and the judges had a very tough task.

### **Vocabulary, punctuation and grammar**

In 2020, our major academic targets were focused around PAT vocabulary, punctuation and grammar. We are very pleased with the results that we have seen in this area and have achieved all of the goals set at the beginning of the year.

### **PAT Testing**

We consistently out performed the National Average in every subject area, in particular, this year we performed exceptionally well in Science and Mathematics.

## ***Physically***



### **Triathlon**

This year's Triathlon National Championships in were held in beautiful Wanaka. We sent a team of 13 down to compete against the countries best. The team collectively won nine medals, including three silver and six bronze and came second overall. The Huntley Triathlon, held in Term 4 on Grandparents day this year, was also a great success, with perfect weather and lots of GDP on display from our students.

### **Huntley Cross-Country**

Another successful Huntley Cross-Country. The majority of our pupils achieving a personal best on race day.

### **Wanganui Inter-School Cross Country**

Congratulations to all our Cross country runners who competed at the Wanganui Intermediate competition. Our team performed very well with many great individual placings.

### **Huntermville Huntaway Festival - Children's Shemozzle**

Huntley students competed well. The boarders enjoyed an outing to watch the shepherds race, with a fun day had by all.

### **Prep Fixtures**

Despite some unexpected interruptions in 2020, we have still managed to participate in a number of prep fixtures, with some good results coming out of each one. We would like to thank the Huntley families who support these fixtures by billeting students when necessary and coming out to watch our teams, whether the games be held at Huntley or away.

### **South Island Winter Sports Tour**

The Biannual South Island Tour was held in week three of term three. It was touch and go as to whether the teams would even be able to travel, but after getting the all clear, teams participated with enthusiasm. Our 1st XI Hockey, 1st XI Football, 1st XV Rugby and Senior A Netball teams travelled to Timaru to compete against Craighead and Waihi.

The teams then headed to Christchurch where they played some hard fought games against Medbury School. Our netball team played St Andrews and St Margarets. A very successful final day of the South Island Tour was had against Cathedral Grammar School with all Huntley teams finishing with a win! The tour was a great success and we thank our parents for coming along and providing support.

### **Swimming Sports**

A wonderful family day that showcased our swimming talent and Huntley Values. An exciting squad relay saw Wilson come out victorious. The overall squad winner for the day was Rix-Trott. Many swimmers improved on their results from previous years and it was great to see first time Swimming Sports competitors giving it all they had.

### **Athletic Sports**

After one false start induced by bad weather, the Huntley Athletics sports was once again proudly supported by our wonderful families and there was plenty of GDP on show. Sherriff took out the overall Squad competition for the day.

### **Tennis**

This year saw our Top VIII Tennis team reclaim the Independent Schools Challenge Cup against Scots early in the year. All teams remained competitive in the Manawatu competition on Saturday mornings.

### **Rugby**

As playing any form of competitive rugby looked uncertain, we decided to flip the season and start with some Squad Rugby and the Rangitikei Shield. Well done to the West Bank side on their 26-19 win. Our 1st XV had a solid season that included a number of memorable prep match wins and making the semi finals in the Whanganui U13 Championship. Our 2nd XV had a successful season in the Whanganui U13 Division 2 competition, chalking up several well earned wins and were always competitive in their prep matches.

### **Cricket**

It is great to see cricket flourishing at Huntley. Regularly fielding five prep match sides and a couple of Friday night kiwi cricket teams in the local Rangitikei competition. The 1st XI continued to do well in the T20 format, winning the Regional Tournament and also the Co Ed Cup. While the girls side (fondly known as the Pink Caps), built on previous years success by winning the Co Ed Cup Shield, and memorable wins against Queen Margaret College, Woodford House, and the Huntley Old Girls. The highlight of the season would most likely be the XI beating both the Hare XI and the Haberdasher's XI to wrap their season up.

### **Hockey**

Another competitive season with lots of improvement for both the 1st XI and 2nd XI teams.

### **Football**

The Senior XI enjoyed a hard-fought competition in the 13th Grade Championship. They enjoyed wins against Southwell, Waihi and Cathedral Gramma in their prep fixtures. The Colts had a successful season playing in the 10th Grade Premiership.

### **Netball**

Another very successful Netball season with three netball teams competing in the local competition. The A team was coached by Mrs Whiteman and they had a very successful year in both Saturday Netball and prep fixtures. The B team was coached by Miss Harrold and made great improvements throughout the season. Finally, the junior team was coached by Mr Leary and they also enjoyed a fun and successful season.

### **Basketball**

Our Year 7/8 Mixed Basketball team made the final for a third year in a row. They came second this year after winning two years in a row.

## ***Culturally***



### **The Year 8 Play**

This year all Year 8's collaborated together to present a wonderful rendition of Mary Poppins directed by Ms Amy Doherty.

### **Year 7 Plays**

Another very enjoyable and entertaining occasion. The students presented their plays expertly and with obvious enjoyment.

### **Year 3/4/5/6 Plays**

The Year 3/4/5/6 students were brilliant in these plays, with several children being awarded their Junior Play Colours for their efforts.

### **Speech and Drama**

Our speech and drama programme was again led by Ms Kerry O'Sullivan. Kerry continued to provide a wonderful environment for students interested in performing to further their talent.

### **Music Concert**

This year we only had one Music Concert and it was an excellent evening. The best of our performers gave us an extraordinary hour and a half of superb music and dance. They performed to a packed house of parents and families. For the first time it was held in the Hall, with this venue certainly showcasing our performers exceptionally well.

### **Music Exams and Results**

15 students sat and passed music practical exams with the following examining bodies: New Zealand Music Examinations Board, Trinity Guildhall (London) and the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

### **Socially**



### **Grandparents' Day**

A new look Grandparents Day this year saw our students showing off their sporting talents to their Grandparents, competing in the Huntley School Triathlon. The combination of the two events proved a hit with our Grandparents and the weather played along to make a great day for all.

### **Golf Day**

Despite having to be rescheduled, this years Golf Day was a huge success. Many thanks to the PFH, for their efforts on the day. It was wonderful to see so many parents enjoying the day with their children. Another successful profit was made.

### **Godparents**

Did a wonderful job of helping new students settle into the school.

### **Boarders' Outings**

The boarders had a number of trips out on weekends during the year, with some highlights being the Hunterville Shemozzle, a visit to Lido pool and Cloud 9 in Palmerston North.

### **Huntley and Carncot Social**

Once again the Huntley and Carncot Social was thoroughly enjoyed by the Year 8's at Carncot.

### **Open Days**

Many thanks to the PFH for their help. Both Open Day and our Test Drive Days were very well attended this year.

### **Camps**

This year we have been to the following Camps: Y3/4/5/6 to Inglewood, Y7 to Wairarapa and Year 8s to Tongariro National Park. Year 8 end of year camps went to the Whanganui River, Beach at Purerere, and Taranaki.

### **Leadership**

Year 7 Leadership Week this year saw the classes involve themselves in a range of activities including team building and physical training, speaking with past Huntley students and other guest speakers and a range of fun and developmental exercises to prepare them for the year ahead.

### **Headmaster's Praise Morning Teas**

At the end of each term we hold a morning tea for all those students who have shown excellence in their work, leading them to be awarded with Headmaster's Praise. Term 3 saw our biggest number of attendees at a Headmaster's Praise morning tea. It has certainly proved to be a hit with the students and an extra incentive to work hard in all areas of their learning.

### **Working Bee**

As we always see here at Huntley, a number of parents came out to support this event. Thank you to all parents that supported the day.

## ***Spiritually***



### **Choir**

Under the leadership of Hector Hewins and Ruby Thomson the Chapel Choir has been outstanding and the singing at the Carol Service attests to that.

### **End of Term Communion Services**

Great to have the whole school together for Communion.

### **Boarders to Saint Stephen's**

Most terms the boarders attend a Morning Service in Marton.

### **Communion and Baptism Services**

Five students from Huntley families were baptised and seven students were admitted to Communion. The Reverend Tim Duxfield from St Stephens was guest preacher.

### **Confirmation by the Bishop at Huntley**

Six candidates from Huntley families were confirmed this year by Bishop Justin.

### **Class Chapel Services**

There were many innovative dramas and thoughtful prayers in the class Chapel Services.

### **Sunday Services**

Morning and Evening services were a lovely way to prepare for a new week.

### **Anzac Day Service**

This was an online service this year. The Chapel Choir performed via the Zoom platform, the Gold Badges read their lists of Old Boys from home, and Reagan Carver gave an outstanding performance of the Last Post and Reveille from home. Most of our Huntley community watched the service online on ANZAC Day.

## **ANNUAL PLAN & WHOLE SCHOOL GOALS**

Excellent progress was made towards achieving our goals for 2020. It should be explained that not everything that happens in the course of the school year is included in the Annual Goals. The year on year activities continue regardless of the Annual Goals. The Annual Goals serve to highlight those activities, which we wish to place particular emphasis on. Over the 5 years of the Strategic Plan's life, we aim to cover all the strategies identified in the plan.

### **Teaching and Learning**

“Provide a learning environment that is modern, relevant and academically advanced and which nurtures every student to achieve their potential not only academically, but also spiritually, culturally, physically and socially.”

2020 has brought some exciting changes as well as consolidating and building on goals set in 2019. It has been a challenging year with COVID-19 but we are proud of our Remote Learning Plan we implemented during the Lockdown. This plan has also been reviewed by our staff and changes have been made in preparation if another Lockdown happened.

The new Huntley Heat (Huntley Evaluative Assessment Tracking) is going well. This sees all our academic tracking (across a range of subjects) move under the PC Schools banner which can be accessed remotely by staff. This will enable staff to retrieve termly diagnostic snapshots of the students at the touch of a button and to more effectively track improvements and plateaus whilst keeping all of our assessment data in one central cloud-based area.

The Year 7 team received funding for more engaging reading books at age-appropriate levels. This completes the three-year cycle and leaves the syndicate with a well-stocked, differentiated set of resources. These are proving very popular with our Year 7 readers and teachers have been doing a good job of incorporating them into their writing programme.

Our Bi-Cultural focus as mentioned in our last ERO report has seen many improvements where we continue to build on our school waiata and school haka by practicing in assemblies, music curriculum and squad competitions. We have also introduced waiata and karakia into Chapel Services. The school haka is now a Squad competition and we use the haka to farewell our Year 8 students after the final Chapel Service of the year and any staff who move on. Te Reo Moari is taught in years 3-6 and basic commands are used in all classrooms, Chapel and Assemblies.

This year we implemented the Digital Curriculum into the timetable. Our students have been enjoying learning about the digital world and the specific skills of coding and robotics. We have a robotics alternative activity and two robotic teams entered their first tournament this year with our Year 7 team coming second. The lockdown certainly helped our teachers and students understand the importance of a digital world with students completing our Remote Learning Plan. All Years 3-6 students learn about the Digital Curriculum, Year 7 students

complete a term of Digital Technology and the Year 8 students choose two subject from Art, Woodwork and Digital Technology. We believe this is a nice progression for our learners.

We continued on our Wellbeing journey partnering with the New Zealand Institute of Wellbeing and Resilience. The parent evening at the beginning of the year was well attended and our wellbeing team learnt a lot during the webinars and seminars they attended. We look forward to continuing on this journey and implementing into our school curriculum.

Our subject reviews were halted by COVID-19 but Mr Wood managed to review our mathematical curriculum statements, our subject reviews will carry over into next year.

### Special Character

“Ensure the Special Character of Huntley School generates and maintains a point of difference.”

Our electronic recording of pastoral care has worked well, especially when identifying patterns of behaviour.

The Long Room has taken shape with painting, new furniture, games and arcade machines. The boarders are really enjoying this space. The free nights in the boarding house were popular and quite a few day students have transitioned into the Boarding House.

The class habit video competition was hotly contested and the student did a wonderful job of creating a video that related to one of our Huntley Habits.

The Huntley School Uniform is now on site with the uniform being purchased off Gracies in Feilding. We look forward to offering a one stop shop at Huntley with competitive prices.

### Staffing

“Resource the school with personnel in a way that best ensures the Teaching and Learning and Special Character aims of the school are achieved.”

All academic staff were part of a Wellbeing programme run by the New Zealand Institute of Wellbeing and Resilience this year and we will continue to build on this next year and build into the curriculum. We chose a Wellbeing team that consisted of teaching, boarding and office staff.

We have formalised our appraisal for all staff with clear reporting lines and performance management systems which has raised performance across the team.

The Board of Trustees have started work on the staff houses to make sure they are warm, safe and inviting.

Our staff are a real strength of Huntley School and continue to make Huntley the special place that it is.

There are no staff changes to the team for 2021.

## Resources and Environment

“The School’s physical environment should be memorable, suitably resourced, fit for purpose, well maintained and comply with regulations”.

Our landscape plan has been produced and aspects of this have been carried out over the last 12 months such as new plantings on the Headmaster’s Lawn and Chapel Gardens. The school driveway has been resealed and marked. New windows have been installed in the kitchen building.

The dining room tables have been sanded back and varnished. Work has started on the dorm entry project with foundations being laid and major building work to be completed over the Summer holidays.

Many of these projects were made possible by the generous support of our incredible PFH, Old Boys and Girls Association and the Endowment Trust.

## Communications

“A well-considered and planned approach to communications will maximise stakeholder satisfaction and will help to attract and secure future students”.

Our school website, the weekly e-newsletter, Week of it and Huntley school app continued to provide up to date information for all of our key stakeholders. These communication channels are constantly being refined and improved.

A marketing plan was created by the Headmaster, Board and our communications consultant. This focused on the marketing events that we hold at Huntley to allow as many potential families as possible to experience the unique characteristics of the school. It also concentrated on the importance of social media and especially Facebook, as it remains one of our most important communication platforms. The social media committee worked hard to ensure our posts displayed those unique traditions and habits that make Huntley school special.

The Headmaster and the Board also conducted one on one family visits in areas of the lower north island that continue to be strong supporters of the school or hold potential. A new advertising billboard was created on the corner of Johnston Road and Whanganui Road. A new Huntley Crest now adorns the western wall of the main block.

Our Open Days and Test Drive Days were well attended.

## Health and Safety

“End each day healthy and safe”

Regular H & S meetings have been established with monthly reporting to the Board. Health and Safety is a regular item on the weekly staff meeting agenda and a Health and Safety team now meets every week to discuss near misses, incidents and hazards. The Health and Safety Committee comprises the groundsman, catering manager, boarding manager, deputy headmaster, headmaster and is chaired by Mrs Shauna Graham (Huntley School BOT member).

Clear expectations around deadlines for RAM’s have been clearly communicated and signed off by Mrs Graham and the BOT.

Well-being is also a regular agenda item for staff meetings and also in the Headmaster's report to the BoT.

#### Financial Sustainability

"The Board has stewardship of the School for future generations and as such it must remain in a financially stable and low risk financial position by meeting its annual outgoings (including all provisions and accruals) from the income generated in that financial year".

As mentioned earlier, driving the school roll was the major financial focus for the Board during 2019. With an approximate starting roll for the 2020 year of 140 we anticipate improved financial performance next year.

The Finance subcommittee continued to meet in between BoT meetings and regularly reported back to the Board on the current financial position of the school.

A capital raising program was developed that will look to identify individuals and companies that wish to contribute towards the new dorm entry project.

The Board has set the Annual Fee level together with the operational and capital works expenditure budgets for 2020.

If anyone would like to discuss the annual report, please contact myself or the Headmaster directly.



Duncan Johnston

**Board Chair**



Sam Edwards

**Headmaster**