



**HEREWORTH**  
DESIGNED FOR BOYS

## **Hereworth School Trust Board Chairman's Report For the year ended 31 December 2013**

It is my pleasure to submit this report on the trust board activities for the past year. Financially the year was challenging but the development of a new strategic plan and a significant increase in the 2014 starting roll finds the school and board in good heart as we start the new year.

### **Strategic planning**

Through the latter part of the year the board and senior staff have been deeply engaged in the development of a new strategic plan to guide and drive Hereworth activity over the next 3 years. The key areas of focus are

- Teaching and learning (*educational excellence across all Hereworth dimensions*)
- Communications and marketing (*increasing awareness of the Hereworth value proposition*)
- Community (*preserving and nurturing the passion for Hereworth*)
- Accessibility (*making Hereworth education attainable for more people*)
- Facilities (*facilities in keeping with quality of the Hereworth educational offer*)
- Finance (*financial sustainability and capacity to develop Hereworth*)

An overview of the plan will be shared with the school community once completed in the second quarter of 2014.

### **Roll**

The school roll has been a challenge all year reflecting the tough economic times still being faced by the region - post global financial crisis and the Hawkes Bay drought. The year-end roll of the school limped to 203 boys well down on the average for previous two years (2012: 219 boys) and the budgeted roll of 210 boys. Boarding numbers were also down, to 22 boys (2012: 37 boys), due in part to a large number of leavers in 2012.

Encouragingly the roll at the start of 2014 was 215 boys.

### **Staff**

Educational excellence cannot be delivered without a team of diligent and dedicated staff. On behalf of the board, I extend our thanks to Headmaster Ross Scrymgeour, deputy Matt Webb and the entire staff for the efforts they have put in over the past 12 months.

### **Finance**

The reduced roll has resulted in the trust board reporting a consolidated financial deficit for the year of \$252,588. 2012 reported a surplus of \$315,048 assisted by significant donations totalling approximately \$263,000. Positive operating cash flows of \$84,244 were generated during the 2013 year.

The financial position of the trust board remains very strong. External debt totals \$366,714 however this is very manageable against the asset base of approximately \$7.2m.

### **School support groups**

I would like to record the appreciation of the board to both the Hereworth Old Boys Association and the Hereworth Parents Association. Both groups continue to provide valuable financial and voluntary support to the school. A new van was acquired toward the end of the year thanks to their combined efforts.

### **Governance**

The board membership has been relatively stable during the past year. The only change has been Anna Drury who was elected as a parent rep to replace Will de Latour following the completion of his term. I would also personally thank all trustees for their continued support during the year.

Andrew Thomas  
7 April 2014