**Report to the General Synod on the Operations and Finances of King’s College for the Period Ending 31 December 2019**

**The College**

King’s College is now in its 124th year of existence as an independent, day and boarding school in Auckland for boys in Years 9 to 13 and girls in Years 11 to 13.

The College roll at December 2019 was 1089, which is an increase of 16 from the same time in 2018.

**Governance**

The governance of the College has seen some significant change in recent times. The Board Chairman, Ross Green, resigned at the end of 2018 and Simon Power took over as Board Chairman at the beginning of 2019. New members of the Board since our last report are Mr Hugh Cotterill and Professor Prasanna Gai. Since February 2018 we have seen the retirement of Board members Ross Green and David McConnell.

The Board has three standing sub-committees: Audit and Risk, People and Remuneration and Property. These committees assist in streamlining and improving Board processes and decision-making, which has accelerated change in the College.

**Finances**

The College remains in a sound position financially, with improving annual operating cash surpluses and relatively low debt levels.  Two significant projects from the Master Property Plan are well underway and are being financed from a mixture of operating cash flow, bank debt, fundraising and the sale of some land.  The first significant project was the purchase of 1.5 hectares of land and the clubhouse from the Royal Auckland and Grange Golf Course, which settled in October 2019.  The second is the construction of a Performing Arts Centre, where planning is almost complete and construction is likely to start in mid-2020.  The fundraising is progressing well and together with the land sale, will ensure that debt levels are kept within very manageable levels.

**Staffing**

Overall, the College continues to attract a high standard of applicants for any vacancies that have arisen. Roll growth has meant a number of new staff needed to be appointed and changes to our House Managers and 24/7 Health Care Programme has seen more support staff appointed in this area.

**Chaplaincy**

Our Senior Chaplain, Reverend Warren Watson, has resigned and will be finishing at the College at the end of Term 1, 2020. We are currently advertising for a Senior Chaplain.

Warren is receiving excellent support from our Assistant Chaplain, Onosai Auva’a. The Voyager and Community Service programmes continue to engage a large number of our students in Chapel outreach activities.

**Facilities**

The Property Committee of the Board of Governors has recently conducted a review of our entire campus, which has informed further modifications and developments to our Master Property Plan.

One of the priority areas established has been the developing of modern learning environments within the College to support our current developments in teaching and learning at the College.

**Academic Programme**

Students continue to thrive academically. In 2019, 20 students gained an Outstanding Cambridge Learner Award, including a top in the world award. The overall University Entrance pass rate was 90%. King’s has had student representation in the New Zealand Olympiad teams in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry as well as in International Robotics competitions.

During 2020 we are continuing to progress the following educational innovations:

* Development of an eLearning model to support the best use of technology across all year levels, incorporating iPads for all students at all levels.
* A focus on student engagement in all areas of their learning combined with student health, safety and wellbeing.
* Data mining to provide instant feedback to teachers and students to allow better management of student progress through the Mentor programme.

**Chapel at King’s College**

Found in the heart of the school community is the King’s College Memorial Chapel. The role of the Chapel is central to the College’s goal of delivering an all-round education to Kings’ students in the area of Christian spirituality and worship in an Anglican setting. Chapel Services include scripture readings, prayer, singing and preaching. Services are held for different Year Groups, Wednesday to Friday. There is a weekly whole school Chapel Service held in the Great Hall for our 1085 King’s students. Regular Sunday House Services and Communion Services continue to accommodate the school community, particularly families. Central to our music ministry and worship is our outstanding Chapel Choir and Chapel Band. Throughout the year the Chaplains serve the wider King’s community by conducting numerous weddings, baptisms and Old Collegian’s reunion services.

**Religious Education**

Religious Education reflects the College’s commitment to the spiritual development of our students. The course work explores Christian values and helps to foster the culture of service encouraged at King’s. Through RE classes students have the opportunity to discuss the big questions of life. Further, moral and ethical issues of our contemporary culture are also discussed and explored. In Year 9 there is an introduction to mainstream world religions and Anglicanism. Year 10 classes learn the value of ‘reflection’ by being involved with Community Service during class time and then discussing and evaluating the experiences they have. Year 10 classes also follow a course which explores the basics of the Christian faith. The classes allow students to engage with and research key biblical texts.

**Community Service**

At King’s College community service is our ‘Christianity at Work’ programme. By creating opportunities to engage with the community, we aim to teach students the value of putting faith into action. More importantly, our students learn that freely giving themselves to the service of others is a lifelong and highly rewarding responsibility. The Otahuhu Fun Day, a major local community initiative in South Auckland, saw over 100 King’s students helping with rides, stalls, music, setting up and cleaning up. At the present time King’s students are also involved in several places such as, the Mangere Refugee Centre, a Reading in Schools Programme, serving organizations that work with young people with disabilities, visiting retirement homes and day care centres, supporting the work of the Women’s Refuge Centre and assisting in numerous ways at Middlemore Hospital and in the local South Auckland area. Students along with the Chapel Band serve also at Ronald Macdonald House. Throughout the year there has been numerous fundraising initiatives from students supporting a wide variety of people and charities especially Tear Fund and Mercy Ships.

**Voyager Programme**

‘Voyager’ is an extra-curricular Christian gathering for students that aims to explore issues around meaning, love, eternity and purpose. ‘Voyager’ set off in March to Muriwai where we enjoyed a 3-day camp of fun activities, worship and teaching. Bishop Ross attended Voyager Camp and spoke to the 40 Voyager students about his own faith journey. Voyager Camp is a natural steppingstone towards Confirmation and on June 23rd we held our annual Confirmation Service. Bishop Ross encouraged our 19 newly Confirmed students to strive for peace, to forgive others and to proclaim by word and action the Good News of Jesus’ love. The Bishop prayed for each student individually asking they be filled with joy and increase in wisdom, understanding, patience, gentleness and love. Three students spoke during the service:

Sarah Griffiths (YR12 Middlemore) writes:

‘I am being Confirmed because it is a special milestone in exploring my faith. I was introduced to Jesus and the Bible through a dear friend of mine and through a supportive group of Christian leaders. I am lucky enough to have found this same love and kindness at King’s. In a society that is always adapting and changing, the values of Christianity such as patience, gentleness, understanding and love never seem to go out of style. These values, displayed to us in their true form by Jesus Christ, govern our daily interactions and the connections we make with others. I am being Confirmed not only to solidify my relationship with God, but to have a better understanding of these positive attributes and hopefully embody them to the best of my ability.’

Nicholas Reeves (YR12 Greenbank) writes:

‘When I was 3 months old, I was baptised. Now at age 16 I have had time to think and ponder about my spirituality and connection to God. I’ve lived in many places and countries around the world and I have seen many aspects of Christianity. I have come to the conclusion that being Confirmed will bring me closer to the Lord, the Church and to God. Confirmation will have a positive impact on my life, especially how I view the world.’

Fa’Afuhia Fia (YR13 Head of House, Peart) writes:

I sought Confirmation because I have experienced many blessings which God has given to me. I am grateful for a loving family, a scholarship to the best school in the country and having good health. However, what has truly motivated me to reaffirm the promises made on my behalf at my Baptism, is the strength and patience God has given to me at the loss of my dear friend Trent Fa’aofo. God’s strength and patience sustains me every day. My belief and trust in Jesus’ death and resurrection is exemplified from Jeremiah chapter 29 verses 10 to 12: “For surely I know the plans I have for you says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will hear you.”

The King’s College Chaplaincy Team is Rev Warren Watson (Senior Chaplain) Mr Onosai Auva’a, (Assistant Chaplain) and Mrs Rosemary Carrington (Community Service Co-ordinator) plus a wonderful student Sacristan Team consisting of 15 students.

**Overall Position**

Overall, King’s College is in good heart with a sound financial position, an increasing roll and a number of innovative and exciting projects underway. We maintain a very good relationship with the church and enjoy our contacts with other church schools and representatives.

We look forward to continuing great progress in the years to come.

Simon Lamb

**Headmaster**

31 January 2020