



**SAINT HELENA'S**  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Something Beautiful for God*

**2020 AGM**  
**Board Treasurer's Report**

Good evening.

What a year 2020 has been! With the challenges of a pandemic and the adjustments needed to be made, the school's budget did not go unaffected.

Teachers are to be commended for rising to the challenge and adjusting to the temporary hold on budgets.

The largest impact of COVID on our budget was the increase in cleaning costs which included a cleaner on site every day to disinfect bathrooms and drinking fountains, the daily sanitisation of our outdoor play equipment, and the regular purchasing of hand sanitiser and disinfectant sprays. These controls are still in place to keep our staff and students safe.

With a number of families losing their jobs or having their work hours reduced, an increased number of means-tested concession cards were provided by families, increasing our fee concessions to families by 27% more than 2019.

### **Capital Expenditure:**

Capital spending was kept to a minimum in 2020. Nothing major had been planned for 2020, but with COVID occurring quite early in the year, spending was curbed.

A total of approximately \$15 000 was spent on small capital purchases, such a new outdoor leaf vacuum for the grounds, a pedestrian gate giving emergency access to the oval next door, some ottomans, and replacing the outside lights around the school with more energy-efficient LED fittings.

### **School Fees for 2021:**

Due to the economic uncertainty arising from COVID-19, CEWA stipulated a 0% increase in all school fees and charges.

The Finance Committee and School Board have agreed to reduce certain fees where possible, in order to assist our families in these uncertain times. They have managed to do this by:

- Reducing the cost to Y6 parents for the Y6 camp by changing venues
- Reducing the book list charges by negotiating with our suppliers
- Reducing the IT levy for families with the eldest child in Y4,5 or 6 due to the added cost of the iPad scheme for Y4's and Y5's
- Halving the P&F levy due to the Nature Play playground loan being paid in full by early 2021.

### **2021 Budget:**

The school continues to remain a viable entity, with cash reserves being carried forward into the new year. The budget reflects a small cash surplus for 2021 but remains a balanced operating budget.

Our pre-kindergarten program continues to flourish with income covering the costs associated with this program.

The canteen is well supported on the two days a week it is open. A deficit came about during COVID, but this has slowly reduced during Term 3 and 4's trading.

Overall, 2020 has proven the agility and resilience of both the staff, students and parents of St Helena's. We are all to be commended on adjusting to the challenges the year has presented.