



## **Director's Annual Report January 2019**

The 2018/2019 school year started well following a significant realignment and relocation of the schools during the previous two years.

The Primary School now occupies the whole of the Sedlec site alongside the Physical Education Department and Sports facility. The occupation of the restored and refurbished Riverview building went extremely well with staff working doggedly over the summer holiday to make it ready in time for the opening of the school. The remaining girls' bathroom was completed during the Autumn term. The Primary team are now giving focus to the development of outdoor play equipment. A remarkable achievement.

The extension of Primary into the Riverview Building facilitated the development of an Administration Suite and Medical facility in what were the stable classrooms. The Primary Principal is now located alongside the administration team.

The Junior High took exclusive ownership of the Jordan Building at Hradcanska, made possible in part by the building of science laboratories in the Arts Centre. This has enabled a greater separation of the Junior and Senior High with reduced movement of students between the two buildings. The move of the Junior High School to Hradcanska coincides with a significant increase in students at this phase from 114 to 150 in the space of two years.

The Senior High has extended into the Arts Centre building and currently occupies space on three floors. The Floor Five Suite for the Year 13 students has proved successful, affording them semi-independence and an area for private study and group session work. Additional space is being sought for the Year 12 students, who are also in need of their own space for private study as the Gallery is becoming increasingly congested.

The Business Office in the summer relocated into newly acquired office space, which will enable an internal stairway between floors 3 and 4 subject to building permission. This will ease the congestion on the external stairs and the contact of students with the public. The High School is currently seeking to acquire a central administration area so that finance and administration occupy the same space.

The Early Years over the summer purchased three active panel screens for the Nursery and Reception Floor and an additional panel for its reading and research area. The Early Years garage has been utilised for engineering and boat building clubs for Junior and Senior High students and has worked well.

Additional toilets, a larger stove and an industrial dishwasher were installed in the Riverside Ranch

All staff were in place for the commencement of the school year.

### **Student Numbers**

Student numbers continue to increase with the school passing the 600 mark this year. The majority of student years have three class groups and the schools are either at or reaching capacity. The IB and IGCSE examination results were again extremely high and significantly above the world averages. Riverside School's high academic standards and outstanding results are one of the key factors leading to the continued increase in student numbers.

### **The Parent Body**

The Parent Body is served by very strong and supportive PTA's in each school. Many activities take place for the students and also for the parents throughout the year and their involvement in the life of the school cannot be underestimated. The PTA and the supportive parent body remains integral to the life of the school.

### **Staffing**

The Junior and Senior High Schools added a part-time English teacher to assist in the development of research skills and an additional Czech teacher to separate out the Primary and Junior High Czech programmes. Further teaching and support staff were added to the Primary School to cater for the additional classes.

### **The Skills for Life and Outdoor Adventure Programmes**

The Skills for Life and Outdoor Adventure programmes remain strong and robust with as many as 136 extra curricular activities taking place each week. The Outdoor Adventure programmes use all the available weekends during the summer term and also arrange trips nationally and internationally within school time. The range and extent of the outdoor adventure programmes is impressive, to say the least

## **School Finances**

The school finances remain strong with all projects being completed within budget. The school remains debt free and retains its not- for- profit status.

## **Coming Developments**

1. The development of the Riverview Playground
2. Air conditioning in the Primary School top floor
3. Air conditioning in the north side of the Jordan, Junior High Building.
4. The development of an internal stairway between floors 2 & 3 in the Arts Centre.
5. Further air conditioning in the Arts Centre Gallery and the Floor 5 Suite.

## **Future and Ongoing Developments**

1. Further acquisition of space in the Arts Centre building.
2. The possible installation of wooden cabins in the grounds of the Ranch and more robust outdoor play and activity equipment.
3. The development of Practical and Vocational studies
4. The further development of Student Support
5. The use of the student accommodation and Arts Centre for a possible summer school

**Peter Daish**  
**Director**