

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT PRESIDENTS REPORT - 2021

Welcome to the 2021 Annual General Meeting for the Golden Square Kindergarten.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of the on coming parents for 2022 for attending our next AGM. Without you, a 2022 Committee would not be able to be formed, so I thank you for taking the time and wanting to be apart of an incredible kindergarten, to be involved in not only your child/ren's kinder year, but continuing to make the kinder great for many years of education for children in the future.

This year on the GSK committee has been very different to many other committees I have been on in the past. Covid has definitely changed the way in which committees meet and communicate, with and without restrictions, and I feel that the committee of 2020 really helped the change to more "online" situations easier for us as a committee for 2021, so I thank all of the 2020 committee for all of your hard work.

At the end of 2020, it was very exciting. We received the grant from the government for our new building to host our 3yo kinder program. It was also the first time I have ever had to speak on camera, not something I had thought was going to happen, but being thrown in the deep end gave me confidence in this role going forward.

Over the year, we held 1 major working bee and some small odd jobs here and there run by the committee, with direction from Carol and her 'long' list of things that needed fixing.

Some of these jobs included, replacing old synthetic turf with new (A big thanks to Scott Eeles for his help), levelling of pavers, weeding, cleaning, concreting a ramp and making a path from the back gate to the shed creating safety for staff to move equipment to and from the storage shed.

A Bunning's BBQ is held and run at least once each year by the kinder committee.

Kinder families and the wider community donate sausages, bread, sauce, onions, drinks and everything else needed to run successfully. All profits are received by the kinder and allow us to purchase new things, or put this money towards a major job or repair.

For this day to run successfully, it needs to have an "all day" contact person, generally a committee member. A big thank you on our day this year has to go out to Kaitlin Johnstone. Kaitlin cancelled her plans for the day to be our "Bunning's point of contact", it was greatly appreciated. Also, thanks to Carol who drove back from Melbourne early to help, as our helper numbers were low. To all others involved in making this day a success, I thank you. After seeing how this operated and to make it smoother for the future, the 2021 committee decided that the "Bunning's contact" would become apart of a kinder committee position, working with GSK educators organising the day.

One of my own biggest driving forces for wanting to be involved on the committee this year was being able to get a "pedestrian crossing" out the front of the kinder to keep our families safe, as I'm sure like me, you have seen how fast vehicles travel along Panton Street. Currently there is no funding available for this to happen, potentially in 2023.

I will continue to push for this, even once my time here at the kinder comes to an end. Hopefully, once we get our new car park beside the kinder as a part of the new build, it will lessen the risk for families. For now, I have been able to get council to change the road safety sign to fluoro yellow in colour and paint on the road to create more awareness for drivers.

Being a committee member, we read and revise many policies that are passed at a committee meeting. Not a hard thing to do and it helps keep the kinder on track and up to date.

The monthly committee meetings continued by zoom from last year, this made it easier for parents to be able to attend. The committee members only got to meet in person a couple of times throughout the year, whether it was at a fundraising event like the Bunning's BBQ or a working bee. All other correspondence was by email/phone. Committee members were always happy to help and put in opinions around discussions at meetings, which is exactly what makes a committee work well.

The staff workload and the amount of hours they do outside of what us as parents see is phenomenal. They go above and beyond its all for our children. The more we can do as a committee or parent to help them, ultimately helps our child/ren's education.

To Carol, Michelle, Belinda, Donna and Danielle and the dedicated educators, I cannot thank you enough for all that you do for the Golden Square Kindergarten and its students. I'm in awe of how hard you ladies work.

Carol, the support you have given me throughout 2021 has been incredible and you are a testament to yourself and the work that you do for the kinder. You are a huge asset to the Golden Square Kinder team.

To Jennifer Warren, the "admin" lady, Thank-You for all of your support and guidance that you have given me this year. Thank-You for all of the hard work and dedicated hours you put in for the kindergarten. You definitely help keep the wheels oiled.

To the 2021 Committee – Simone, Matt, Renee and the general committee, thank-you all for trusting me to lead the Golden Square Kindergarten this year. You have all been dedicated, incredible with discussions of how we can make the kinder even greater for the future. Your commitment to committee meetings each month didn't go unnoticed and I need to thank you for laughing at my poor jokes.

Thank-You for choosing Golden Square Kindergarten for your child/ren, and for wanting to be apart of the committee this year.

I wish the incoming 2022 committee all the very best for the year, and I cannot wait to see all the great things continue to come together, especially with the 3yo kinder building being completed.

Julianne Baldock
President 2021