

**Golden Square Kindergarten  
Committee of Management  
Annual General Meeting  
Minutes**



<b>Date</b>	Monday, 7th November 2022	
<b>Time</b>	7pm start (Open at 6.30) for registrations	
<b>Location</b>	Zoom meeting	
<b>Attendees</b>	<b><u>Staff of Golden Square Kindergarten</u></b>	
	Danielle Walker	
	Carol O’Bree	
	Jennifer Warren	
	Michelle Robinson	
	Belinda Appleby	
	<b><u>2022 Committee of Management of Golden Square Kindergarten</u></b>	
	Tamara Verity (2022 President)	
	Jessica Jones (2022 Secretary)	
	Jo Fifer (2022 Treasurer)	
Ebony Kronk (2022 Vice President)		
Nicole Crameri (2022 General Committee)		
Matthew Wright (2022 General Committee)		
Alyssa Rich (Community Portfolio - Early Childhood)		
Julianne Baldock (Community Portfolio - Liaison Officer)		
<b><u>Families of 2023 students of Golden Square Kindergarten</u></b>		
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Child</b>
	<b>4yr old/3yr old</b>	
1.	Anita Ludwigsen	Spencer Smith
		3 yo
2.	Oliva Keating	Henry Keating
		3yo
3.	Sharon & Craig Diss	Adalyn Diss
		4yo
4.	Michelle Weeks	Louella Weeks
		3yo
5.	Candece Haines	Abigail Haines-Free
		3yo
6.	Megan Kowalski	Sienna Kowalski
		4yo
7.	Olivia Savage	Freda Roche
		4yo
8.	Jonatan Astrand-Ferris	Alfred Astrand-Ferris
		4yo
9.	Eleah Noy	Akuei Noy
		4yo
10.	Amy Anderson	Benji Anderson
		4yo

	11. Nicole Crameri	Max & Leo Crameri	4yo & 3yo
	12. Daniel Hirth	Ollivander Hirth	3yo
	13. Dean Cosgriff	Freya Cosgriff	3yo
	14. Lachlan Maltby	Zara Maltby	4yo
	15. Jacki Dimond	Annabelle Francis	3yo
	16.	Theodore Hurrell	3yo
	17. John & Cilla Stewart	Taavi Stewart	3yo
	18. Monique Clayton	Isaac Clayton	3yo
	19. Ebony Kronk	Ireland & Billy Kronk	3yo & 4yo
	20. Natalia March	Aylah March	3yo
	21. Bianca Jones	Jack Collins	4yo
	22. Amy Muffarotto	Max Muffarotto	3yo
	23. Ben Kemp	Eliza Kemp	3yo
	24. Casey McKenna	Tom McKenna	4yo
	25. Laura Melhuish	Megan Melhuish	3yo
	26. Lauren Sourgen	Ethan Sourgen	4yo
	27. Lisa Holding	Lucy Holding	3yo

### Topics for discussion:

<b>1.</b>	<b>Acknowledge of Country</b> – Danielle Walker
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies</b> – none
<b>3.</b>	<b>President's Welcome</b> President Tamara Verity welcomed everyone to the meeting.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Minutes from prior Annual General Meeting</b> The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting are on the Kinder website. These minutes were tabled as true and correct. Moved – Tamara Verity Seconded – Julianne Baldock
<b>5.</b>	<b>President's Report</b> Tamara read the President's report thanking the staff and committee for a great year, which included the opening of the new building. Tamara's report is attached to these minutes.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>

	<p>Treasurer Jo Fifer presented a summary of the treasurer’s report, encouraging people to read the full report on the Kinder website. Jo’s report is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>There has been considerable financial movement this year with the completion of the building works. Finances are still strong while waiting on the final release of the grant funding for the building. The next main step will be obtaining a grant to refurbish the playground.</p> <p>Jo moved a motion that we appoint Kelly and Partners, Bendigo as the auditors once again for 2023</p> <p>Seconded – Tamara Verity</p> <p><b>President and Treasurer’s Reports</b></p> <p>Moved – Julianne Baldock</p> <p>Seconded – Matthew Wright</p>
7.	<p><b>Director’s Report</b></p> <p>Carol O’Bree welcomed everyone to her final AGM as director of Golden Square Kindergarten. Carol mentioned the many changes that she has seen in her 30+ years at Golden Square Kindergarten, including the opening of the new building this year. Carol praised the wonderful staff for their hard work while working with limited facilities and space during the building works.</p> <p>Carol’s full report is attached to these minutes.</p>
8.	<p><b>General Business</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Selection of an Auditor for 2022/2023 – motion moved in Treasurer’s report.</li> </ol>
9.	<p><b>Explanation of Program</b></p> <p>Danielle presented a slide show on the many aspects of the Educational Program at Golden Square Kindergarten – based on the many types of “Play” and how it looks in the kinder. Danielle described some of the intentional teaching topics, special programs, excursions and incursions that the children will experience at Golden Square Kindergarten both in the 4 year old and pre-kinder groups. Danielle discussed how the introduction of pre-kinder this year has been a great experience for the children and educators, developing routines and relationships with the children to begin their journey into formal education.</p>
10.	<p><b>Election of New Committee</b></p> <p>Carol thanked the outgoing committee members and declared positions vacant except for Vice President and Secretary</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>President</b> – Megan Kowalski Moved: Tamara Verity Seconded: Jo Fifer</li> <li>2. <b>Vice President</b> – Ebony Kronk (staying on)</li> <li>3. <b>Treasurer</b> – Jonatan Astrand-Ferris Moved: Jo Fifer Seconded: Megan Kowalski</li> <li>4. <b>Secretary</b> – Jessica Jones (staying on)</li> </ol> <p><b>General Committee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tamara Verity</li> <li>- Candice Haines-Free</li> <li>- Natalia March</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jenny Mannix</li> <li>- Natasha Penna</li> <li>- Ivy Stevens</li> <li>- Anita Ludwigsen</li> <li>- Carmen Jones</li> <li>- Georgia Astrand-Ferris</li> <li>- Bianca Jones</li> <li>- Ben Kemp</li> <li>- Julianne Baldock</li> <li>- Olivia Keating</li> <li>- Jacki Diamond</li> <li>- Hun Yu</li> </ul> <p><b>Moved:</b> Tamara Verity <b>Seconded:</b> Megan Kowalski</p>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Handover Meeting – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November @ 8pm</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Meeting Closed at 7.50pm</b>

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2022**

Good evening and welcome to the 2022 Annual General Meeting for the Golden Square Kindergarten. We have survived another year of Covid and now flooding to the local area and surrounds which I hope things are now easing for those affected. Thank you to our oncoming parents for your dedication, not only to your children, but to our kinder community which I know will make a huge difference to our future. Without you we wouldn't have a committee and then wouldn't have a kindergarten, so please know you are greatly appreciated. This year our major development has been the opening of our Carol O'Bree Education Centre, also known as New Chum, which was formally opened in October this year. This new building has been years in the making and now that it has arrived, we are able to offer many more children places here at Golden Square Kindergarten. Thank you to the previous committees and teachers, in particular Carol and last year's president Julz both who have made tremendous efforts to accomplish this goal. Onwards we are hoping to finalise our carpark which will allow for a safer area for families to attend kinder and down the track we may be able to build onto our existing area which would be fabulous. This year we had several fundraising events, our major one being our Bunnings BBQ. Thank you to all the parents that gave up their time and donated goods to this day. As a community ran kindergarten, it's the parents' efforts that help to keep us going. A great amount was raised this day and our profits allowed the teachers to fund new purchases such as play equipment; otherwise placing the money towards ongoing repairs. A special thank you to Jen and Jess who helped me organize the financial side of things and the paperwork to ensure smooth operation with the local Kangaroo Flat Bunnings. In coming weeks, we hope to conclude another fundraiser which is our photography sessions completed by a kinder family with liaison through Jess from our Fundraising committee. Hopefully we see some familiar and new faces at this event. As many parents may realise, our kinder held several working bees over the year, which helped teachers to develop the outdoor area for the kids and then helped move the kinder between sites. In particular, a big thank you to one of the dads from the Kangaroo Group who lent us his skills as a landscaper and ran several large days. Your help was greatly appreciated and has helped improve our outdoors. Our committee members perform various tasks including reading and revising policies on a regular basis, to ensure these are current for the children and staff. Each month we attend a committee meeting via zoom which allows for a greater number of parents to attend as we usually host it after children's bedtimes. In addition, there are specific committee roles but as a group if members were willing to lend a hand and help as

required. Unfortunately, due to Covid, we have not seen each other often in real times but we were lucky enough to join up at the recent building opening where we could celebrate the kindergarten's accomplishment. What a fantastic day it was! To our teachers, the absolute heroes of 2022. How do we begin to say thank you for your awe-inspiring efforts this year? Time and time again, day in and day out, you have put on a brave face and greeted your students with a smile and in doing so, have provided hope, comfort, and support to the children. You have gone above and beyond to engage your students, parents and colleagues and keep the magic and love of learning alive through your morning check ins, engaging lessons, excursions/incursions, and nurturing the special relationships that you have built which took our students from strength to strength. Some of you may not know but our inspiring leader Carol is saying goodbye to us at the end of this year. Carol has been with the kinder community for many years and her absence will be noticed. We hope you have a wonderful retirement with all your grandkids and maybe get to see some new sights with your family. We wish you a safe and happy next chapter. Please come and visit us as much as you want! To Jennifer Warren, thank you. Your guidance throughout the year has been phenomenal. You are always available to chat over things and don't ever let us feel like we are silly for asking. Your dedication to the kinder, both past and present, is appreciated by all. To the 2022 committee thank you for putting your faith in me undertaking the President's position, even if it was by default. As an introvert I struggled to lead meetings but you all supported me and guided me as to how to accomplish the tasks ahead. I thank you for your leadership in focusing on the wellbeing and learning of all. For every decision, meeting, phone call, email, video, presentation, letter, card, smile... thankyou. I understand that the strong culture that exists at Golden Square Kindergarten does not occur by accident, instead by a collective sense of moral purpose and collective efficacy. Thank you to all the families joining and those remaining at Golden Square Kindergarten. Your choice of kinder could not have been better and we welcome you to the family. I wish the oncoming committee all the very best for the 2023 year and I look forward to hearing about the success and new projects along the way. Tamara Verity President 2022

### **DIRECTOR/NOMINATED SUPERVISORS REPORT**

Welcome to Golden Square Kindergarten 2022 AGM & Information Night. This evening I have the pleasure of presenting this report on behalf of the Educators at Golden Square Kindergarten. This will be my final AGM report. Over 30 years I have witnessed and been an active participant in the development of Golden Square Kindergarten. Having a Community Kindergarten has allowed the centre to make decisions that have led to extending the building three times, increasing child-educator ratios, improving facilities and implementing programs that provide children with a foundation for their future learning. During the past 25 years we also implemented Long Day Kindergarten that has provided an option for children to have before and after kinder. As the only stand-alone kinder in Bendigo to offer this program we recognise how much this alternative option to childcare centre is valued. Over my time at GSK, we have advocated for Kindergarten Education to be given the funding and resources to ensure all children have equal access to a pre-kinder education. We recognise the significant benefits for future learning and social outcomes provided by a kindergarten education. This year after several attempts to move in to our new building, we were finally accessed our new building in August. This has provided us with the opportunity to provide a three-year-old program. In 2023 we will offer every child 15 hours of kindergarten (3year old and 4 year olds). We recognise that going forward the timetable will change to ensure that we continue to offer both the longer hours groups that families are looking for, as well as the 15 hour of kinder only groups. Whilst the new building faced many delays so our the three-year-old group operated from the Eaglehawk Primary School site for the first half of 2022. We faced lots of new

challenges on this site. However, we worked out how to provide an amazing program that encompassed the facilities on this site. From the chickens and garden, to the bike track and choice of playgrounds, we discovered how competent pre kinder children are. They quickly adapted to this centre and looked forward to their weekly visits. For many children this was their first time away from families during the Covid-19 period. Meanwhile on the GSK site we eventually began to see the construction works of our new building commence. Thankfully we remained operational despite the inconveniences that occurred due to the building works. Covid-19 and influenza have been rampant this year effecting children, families and educators to the point that some sessions were cancelled due to the unavailability of educators because of illness. Families and educators have been very supportive during this past year and we appreciate everyone's consideration to ensure we reduce the spread of illness by remaining home, testing, wearing masks and supporting the delivery and collection of children at the door. It is wonderful to return to opening up the centre for families to enter the building and observe their children in the program. We have just completed the process of employing 6 new educators and a centre manager. These position will begin next year. We welcome them to our team and look forward to forming strong partnerships with families. We have increased our child-educator ratios to one above the required ratio, recognising that this is key to developing meaningful relationships with children and families and providing the best programs and outcomes for children. We will also be using our School Readiness funding to employing a Karen speaking support worker for several hours a week. It is wonderful to welcome these new professionals to our team and we wish them joy in their new roles. Tonight we need to elect a Committee of Management that will ensure that the kindergarten continues to provide services and programs that meet our community's needs. Being part of this Committee will allow you to have a say in how we operate, and allow you the opportunity to learn more about how children learn and why kinder is such an important year of learning. Being an independent kindergarten has its benefits, including allowing to plan and implement change for the future.

PROGRAM: Our kindergarten program continues to develop and is a key element in why families choose to attend our centre. We believe that "learning through play" forms the basis for children's learning. We understand and recognise that the environment empowers children to be motivated and inquisitive learners. By listening and observing children we can plan for individual children and also groups of children according to their interests and skills. Kindergarten learning occurs in every aspect of a child's day. Routines, transition, groups and individual experiences are carefully reflected on and planned for learning to occur and to be extended. For a program to meet the needs of every child we need to ensure that we create a community of learners that are aware of the social and emotional skills and attitudes needed to ensure everyone is safe, happy and connected. Our Educators use intentional teaching to ensure that everyone has a clear understanding of expectations and how to get along with others.

PREKINDER: This year we implemented the pre kinder program for the first time. Having only five hour or seven and a half for Emus a week was in itself a challenge. Our program really focused on developing secure relationships with each child so they felt safe and happy. We recognised that by providing consistent routines children managed their day and could identify when parents would return to collect them. Singing, dancing and movement was the key to gaining group and individual focus, and teaching them self-regulation and skills. eg (colours, types of movements, counting, about topics- aboriginal culture, animals, etc) We soon discovered that faced with the challenges of high off ground equipment (at Eaglehawk Primary School) every day demonstrated how competent, persistent and resilient these preschool children were. The daily visits to the chickens and vegetable garden was the highlight of their day, and was also the catalyst for many children to return each week. We had so many amazing learning experiences here as we experienced the seasonal changes, observed the life cycle of chickens and worms, looked for and discovered what plants, animals and

insects lived here. When we finally moved into our new room at GSK the children quickly adapted and really enjoyed the indoor/outdoor opportunities. They were very confident on the new equipment, and children are now making connections with the children and educators in the other groups. By having pre-kinder on the same site children will easily transition into the four-year-old program as they are familiar with some of their peers, the teachers and the outdoor area. They will have the foundations of knowledge and skills ready to enjoy the new learning opportunities that the Four-year-old program will provide.

FOUR-YEAR-OLD PROGRAM: This year the children were disadvantaged by the reduction of the outdoor area due to the new build. However, they also had the opportunity to view the building process which appealed to both the children and educators at times. Thankfully we have a large outdoor area and the educators continued to find innovative ways to provide new experiences to challenge and inspire learning. The four-year-old program has many innovative learning programs that educators have developed over many years. These include the You Can Do It Program (Gabby Get Along, Connie Confidence, Pete Persistence, Ricky Resilience and Oscar Organisation). We have discovered over many years that by intentional teaching these skills ALL children will develop their understanding and skills to become able to get along, be confident, resilient, persistent and organised. These are lifelong skills and will underpin all aspects of their lives. The RULER APPROACH then builds on the social and emotional learning of the You Can Do It program. This program helps children develop a culture of inclusion by developing a Charter to use to ensure everyone's safety and happiness. Emotional awareness has been linked to developing strong wellbeing and good mental health and this program has been great for supporting children to identify and talk about their feeling, develop strategies to manage strong emotions, including asking for help. 'The Little Movers Program'. This was a research project that Danielle and Michelle participated in over the past two years. Our centre was assessed to see how we engaged children in movement opportunities. We already had a huge focus in this area, recognizing that children learn through movement. Through this ongoing professional development Michelle and Danielle implemented new ideas, activities and educated the rest of the kindergarten team. This program really highlighted the areas that we could improve on and this will lead to enhanced learning opportunities for all of the kindergarten children. This program was shared with families and helped to support movement during lock down. Every aspect of learning is witnessed daily throughout the year. From science, mathematics, technology, music, dance, creativity, arts, learning about the environment, sustainability, about cultures- including Aboriginal and first nation's people, learning and involvement in our community, literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. This year we completed our second Cultural audit and we received a very high score, demonstrating our on-going recognition of including learning and understanding for children about our past and present indigenous people, The Dja Dja Wurrung people.

PARENTS/ FAMILIES: We recognise your unique role as children's first educators and we thank you for working with us to share information, goals and understandings that helps us to develop secure and meaningful relationships with you and your child. Thank you for your consideration and acceptance of the protocols that we were directed to put in place during Covid-19. A really big THANK YOU goes to those families who travelled to Eaglehawk for kinder for well over the expected time. We are very grateful for your ongoing communication and participation in our programs. We thank all those who have attended the numerous working bees and supported us by helping set up kinder at Eaglehawk at the start of the year, and then transferring everything to our new building at Golden Square. Over the past three years there has been so much physical movement of equipment. Thank you to all, especially educators and their family members who volunteered their time. I would also like to thank you all for the cards, drawings, kind words and gifts that you presented to our educators on Early Childhood Educators Day. It was a wonderful surprise for them

and they really did feel appreciated. However, the biggest thank you is to you for your ongoing support, kind words, and acceptance of the procedures we implemented to keep our kinder community healthy. Our centre's reputation and ongoing enrolments is attributed to your recommendations so please help us by sharing your kindergarten experience. Thank you to Simone Cutting for being our Scholastic organiser this year. Thank you to Bianca Jones for managing our inventory.

EDUCATORS: As I move into retirement I have been reflection on my career. During my career at GSK I have been so fortunate to work with colleagues who are passionate and dedicated to providing the very best in Preschool Education. I have received support from so many past and present educators over the past thirty plus years. I love coming to work and this is due to your energy, kindness and HUMOUR. Every day is an adventure and where else could you sing dance, play and have fun. It is not just a means of employment; it would be far easier to be employed in a walk in walk out job. This vocation requires commitment and it is our life's passion. For every hour we work with children we spend several more hours in our personal time preparing materials and setting up for programs. This time is not taken into account and I often hear, "Why can't you just do it at work?" (Particularly from my family) Our work is face to face with children and includes soooo much more then education and engagement with children and families. I hope in the future that this will be considered so that we can get back to "TEACHING". The future of Kindergarten has now been secured, I just hope it doesn't come at the high price of educators leaving the sector. I thank you all for working for the past two years without the facilities you deserve. Eg Kitchen and office. I also thank you for covering our staff relief, supporting each other with personal and family considerations. YOU ARE AN AMAZING TEAM. I love you heaps and will miss you. THANKYOU to my team-: Danielle Walker, Donna Spillman, Belinda Appleby, Michelle Robinson, Jenny Windridge, Suzy Dalrymple, Julie Herbertson, Donna Skinner, Tracie Kane, Angela Williams, Kathy Milne. You are amazing and I am very fortunate to have such dedicated colleagues. Gayle Jeffrey and Elissa Stevens will move on to new opportunities next year and we thank them for their commitment and wish them all the best. SPECIAL THANK YOU TO- Michelle Robinson who has taken on the role this year as co- Educational Leader and Nominated Supervisor. I have enjoyed working with you and found sharing this role has allowed new insights and understanding which is of benefit all.

ADMINISTRATOR: Jennifer Warren is also retiring after ten years of commitment to Golden Square Kindergarten. Her workload has increased significantly over the years and we are so grateful for her commitment to GSK. Her skills, patience and good humour have been appreciated throughout the years. 5 We wish her all the best for her future adventures.

STUDENTS: This year we had many students and in particular it was great to provide placements for future Early Childhood Educators. We welcome students and we love to share our expertise, whilst learning about new practices and innovations in early Childhood Education. Thanks to the educators who acted as mentors and provided the students with their time and wisdom.

VOLUNTEERS: Thanks to Chris Ellerton who has continued to help out this year behind the scenes by knitting poppies that we use for Anzac day, preparing materials and making play dough. Thank you to Gwen Smart who types up the Children's Voice to share with you at various times of the year. THANK YOU!

GARDENER/MAINTENANCE: Thank you to Dean Reed for trying to keep up with the gardening and maintenance. Thank you Dean for your commitment.

CLEANING: Dave Kane continues to provide that ongoing support that returns chaos to order. Having been responsible for cleaning after three-year-old sessions this year I really value how Dave's time



and commitment allows educators to focus on teaching. Dave has ensured we maintain Covid hygiene protocols to keep the kinder clean. We also thank him for all the little extras he does for us throughout the year. Eg. Moving equipment, making garden beds, painting cubbies. THANK YOU DAVE!

IT: This year we welcomed our new IT support person –Grant Sutton is our go to person when we need help with computers and lap tops. His ability to dial in and fix our problems has worked well during the Covid-19 pandemic. We really appreciate his support as technology has provided us with very important connections to families and community.

COMMITTEE: For the past thirty plus years I have had the privilege of supporting our new committees of management. As a stand-alone kindergarten we appreciate the support and commitment of those who take on these roles. As the years have passed we have ensured that The Administrator’s role has been able to reduce the work that was once required by individual committee members. The online Committee meetings have been very successful and will remain as they are the preferred option for future meetings. This year we commenced the year with Kaitlin Johnstone as president. Tamara Verity who commenced the year as Vice president then took over the role of President in the middle of the year and has been very supportive and helpful with preparing for 2023. We appreciate the commitment you have had for this role and we recognise the leadership you have provided for our centre. Jess Jones has been our Secretary, ensuring that we documented our meetings as required and she also attends to other communication and documentation as required. We have appreciated your support and extra help with the pre-kinder set ups. Jo Fifer took on the role of Treasurer and was supported by Jennifer (Admin officer) to report on our finances at each meeting. We were very thankful for the following committee members who attended our meetings and ensured that we could make the decisions necessary to operate our centre. Our general committee members were-; Matthew Wright, Ebony Kronk (thanks for taking on the Vice President role), Nicole Cramer, Tara Alexander, Bianca Jones, Ryan Millard. We appreciate your attendance at meetings and support to govern our centre, I would like to thank Sam Kane and Alyssa Rich for supporting our centre and providing advice and expertise in your supporting roles to the Committee. QIP (Quality Improvement Plan)- I would like to thank Michelle Robinson, Danielle Walker, Donna Spillman, Belinda Appleby, Tamara Verity, Alyssa Rich and Ebony Kronk for being on this group. Thank you all so very much for your commitment to Golden Square Kindergarten and I hope that we can benefit from now having two years of kindergarten so that we can maintain a better continuity of leadership in our committees. Too all of our committee members I urge you to continue to be involved in your child’s school and other organisations as you now know you can make a difference and that your input is valued.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS: A few of our major achievements are: - • Updating policies • Opening NEW CHUM • Acquiring new educators for 2023. • Acquiring grant applications. 1. IT Grant \$1500– which we received to purchase a new lap top. 2. Commencing play ground up grand plans. • Educators have all completed CPR UPDATES • Educators completed Child Protection professional development.

Finally, I would like to extend a special thank you to Danielle Walker and Sam Kane for establishing a communications system using technology to connect with families, particularly tonight as we conduct our AGM/Information Evening.

I wish next year’s families and children a wonderful kindergarten experience. I thank the 2023 new Committee of Management in advance and wish them all the best for 2023. This concludes my final AGM report. The handover meeting on MONDAY the 21st of November 2022 at Golden Square Kindergarten at 8.00pm.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

2022 has been characterised by the emergence from Covid-19 lockdowns, and a review of finances shows that the pandemic has thankfully not had too negative an effect on our position. Specifically to Golden Square Kindergarten, this year has also marked the culmination of our building works and the introduction of a 3 year old kinder program. As such, there has been considerable movement at a financial level with large payments but of course some financially and educationally valuable fixed assets added to our balance sheet. Financial Result for 2021 - 2022 Golden Square Kindergarten's Financial Report for the year ending 30 September 2022 was audited by Kelly Partners Bendigo. Please take some time to review our audited financial report. The total comprehensive income for 2022 was \$214,880 (compared to \$441,185 in 2021). The primary driver of this is mostly grant income which was \$150,189 lower than the previous year. Fee income was slightly increased from the prior year at \$242,288 mostly due to the introduction of 3year-old kinder. Overall expenses also contributed, which were accounted for mainly by wages due to the introduction of a new Award and consequent back pay and necessary furniture and equipment for the 3-year-old kinder groups. Our overall cash position is reduced due to payments made toward the new building, however this has translated to our fixed assets having increased substantially. We still have our final payments outstanding, which accounts for our high "Payables" however we are awaiting the final releases of grant funding from the Department of Education in order to finalise all build finances. Our total equity at end -September 2022 was \$1,362,782 relative to \$1,147,902 last year. Outlook for 2023 In the near future the final funding for our build will be received and final payments made. This will be the end of a long road with a huge investment of time and energy by the management of the centre. The next step will be obtaining a grant which will allow us to refurbish the back yard play area to ensure that we continue to provide an engaging and safe outdoor space for both 3 and 4-yearold children. The Budget for 2023 reflects the increased government funding for free kinder for 3 and 4-year-old programs, which will of course be a great help to families, but will also provide a funding boost to our kinder beyond our usual fees. The increase in School Readiness Funding will allow increased access to a range of services, it will allow us to employ a bi-lingual educator to work in two of our 4-year-old groups and to also support our Karen families. The SRF Funding will also provide professional development for staff. Acknowledgements My sincere thanks to Jennifer Warren, Administrator, for all her hard work in managing the day-today administration and finances of the centre. Thank you also to all the teachers and educators. So many of us choose this kindergarten due to its impressive reputation and "Exceeding" standard, but it is when your children attend the centre that you realise just what a brilliant environment has been created to nurture our children's development, and it is when you attend committee meetings that you realise just how much work and passion the staff here give to bring that about. Thank you to the Committee of Management; to all members who have attended and allowed the smooth running of the kinder, and in particular Kaitlin Johnstone and Tamara Verity for their efforts as President and Jessica Jones for keeping us all organised as Secretary. It has been a privilege to pay a part in the committee this year.

Jo Fifer  
Treasurer