

**2021 President's Report
Dr Harry Little Preschool Committee of Management**

AGM Monday 29th November 2021

Olivia Grist

Opening and Welcome

- Welcome to Dr Harry Little Preschool's 2021 AGM, I am Olivia Grist & current president of the Committee of Management, this was my 5th and final year on the committee.
- We acknowledge and pay respect to the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the original custodians of the land we meet on. We commit ourselves to actively work alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures for reconciliation and justice
- Tonight's meeting will include several reports which will give you with an overview of what has happened at DHLP (Dr Harry Little Preschool) in 2021 & what we are currently looking towards in 2022.
- Hopefully, this will encourage some of you to join next year's committee & nearing the conclusion of our meeting we will then move onto the election of office bearers & complete a couple of little administrative matters.

President's Report

- 2021 at Dr Harry Little Preschool has been a constant evolution. I would like to thank Alise Amarat for starting the year as president & project managing a few major tasks during January such as new bathroom for Room 1, Roof Restoration, New ceiling in Room 2 & internal painting.
- The current 2021 Committee have been absolutely amazing; I have had the pleasure of working with some fabulous people on such a variety of projects thank you for your support & friendships over the last year. There have lots of laughs, a few tears, a baby boom – congrats Chantelle, Liz & Phalen, a snake catcher, COVID lockdowns but most of all memories that will last a lifetime. And here we are – we survived!
- Thank you to all the staff at Dr Harry Little who have done an amazing job leading our little ones into the world of Early Education. They have managed to walk through the land of Covid restrictions, department rules & regulations whilst holding our & our children's hands as we negotiated this big step in our lives.
- Well done to our amazing children, who have been so resilient and grown so much.
- I would like to encourage you all to strongly consider being a part of DHLP committee. It gives you a hands-on chance to use your skill set to help one of the last independent Kindergartens in Bendigo.

- 2021 has been a year of change. - We have changed presidents, treasurers, Nominated Supervisor, we have said good bye to Mrs Morrison & welcomed Ms Hammer, our pick up & drop off routines have altered, new bathroom, new paint, goodbye to our annual fair fundraiser so new fundraising opportunities – delicious Krispy Kreme doughnuts! New Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/Dr-Harry-Little-Preschool-718989092226418>
- Children of 2021 were lucky enough to receive a fully funded year of kinder due to the impact COVID has had on our society. This in turn benefitted the kinder by parents making voluntary contributions, so we can now in 2022 continue to enhance our outdoor spaces.
- Maintenance – DHLP is always improving, we have added chip bark, new notice boards, new equipment, furnishings & vacuum, OH&S supplies, curtains, we still need someone to oil the playground if anyone is interested.
- The fundraising team lead by Amanda & backed by Phelan have made exceptional progress, they raised funds through child art work, picture plates, a Krispy Kreme doughnut drive, raffles & have just finished an online auction. Amanda has had the asbestos removed which will now enable more storage & an extra adult toilet at the kinder. Fundraising has raised enough money to refurbish the cubby & to begin on the sandpit with a mud pie kitchen addition. This is amazing as we have decided to discontinue our Annual Fair – which was our main fundraising event for many years.
- This year we have had money to make change happen – but unfortunately COVID has limited our access to trades so 2022 committee you have a lot to work with.
- Grants, thank you to Liz for achieving funds for an upgrade to our veggie patch – this will be completed in 2022 with help from Ms Hobson. We are also at present applying for shade sails.
- We have been working on 3-year-old kinder hours, which will be extended in 2022 with the government encouraging 15-hour programs by 2029. This has brought a complete redesign of our timetable & staff roster - thanks to the staff with your assistance with this.
- Our Staff Liaison Chantelle has been wonderful this year, an amazing asset to the kinder, thanks so much for all your work. I am in awe of how you have managed everything.
- Thanks to Gabby, our secretary, many phone calls, messages and chats - without you the committee would not have operated! I also would have gone insane without you.
- Our Treasurer Sophie had to take over early/mid-year – thanks so much for stepping up.

- Thanks to everyone else who has made up a great committee – Kate on Policies, Tanya our VP, Joe – I am sure you did stuff, Kim for fundraising, Jessica for book club & anyone else I may have missed.
- Thanks to the staff it has been fun working with you all again, Bron yep still here for my 3rd child, Ange for your friendship & help, Mara for your resourcefulness, Nat for your insight, Christina & Maria for wrangling those tiny 3-year old's, Pauline for the chats, Cherie for your motivation, Rob for being you & Simone my endless point of knowledge. We could not have done it without you all.
- Thanks for a wonderful 2021 & look forward to seeing how the kinder continues to excel in the future.