2023 was our first full year with little disruption and restrictions due to covid. Our 2022 AGM was held in person at the Preschool and we started the year with all our pre covid social gatherings including the welcome disco, our Pops morning tea, play in the park and other social events. We were all very happy to get back to some sort of normality.

Our welcome Disco was a huge success and it was great for everyone to be able to come together in typical Handley style.

The upgrade to the playground began in January where we upgraded our pavers and bench seat and later in the year our new path, artificial grass and turf.

Term 1 came and went with lots of fun and exciting experiences being provided for

the children. We introduced digital sign in and out and digital enrolments with our new childcare management system.

In Term 2 we were very excited to go on our first excursion in a while to the wildflower gardens. Our annual fete was well underway as well as other preschool community events. Parents met with their childs teacher this term for some feedback about how they were going and together set some goals for the rest of the year.

We purchased a large amount of new childrens books after we received a very generous donation from one of our families and our book library was restocked and catelogged.

By Term 3 we were all getting ready for our annual fete. Our social committee worked very hard on this event and we made a few changes to our normal fete activities including our flower stall, football goal and Devonshire tea. We managed to raise $13000 from our fete which helped fund our playground upgrade.

Our families worked hard volunteering their time at working bees to help remove the artificial grass and upgrade our native garden.

We made it to Term 4, and what a busy term it was. We welcomed our 3 new Chinese silkie chickens to the Preschool, Peekachu, Rainbow and snowy and said farewell to nugget. The Kinsley family kindly offered to adopt Nugget as she had outgrown our coop and it was a little crowded with 4 chickens. The Preschool received notification of our assessment and rating process approaching and after 5 years we were assessed under the National Quality Standards. We were very happy to receive an overall exceeding rating for the Preschool.

We had orientation for the new children, eye screening and we finished off the year with our Handley disco and end of year celebrations.

Of the 90 children enrolled in 2023 I am very proud to say that 66 children went off to kindergarten at the start of this year. They were well prepared, resilient and ready to face the challenges of school. Children from Handley filtered into 20 different schools.

Our highly qualified staff, their experience, maturity and their ability to provide an above ratio learning environment meant that we were able to deliver an exceptional educational program that prepared children for school.

A special thank to our Bookkeeper Jill Jones for your continued support in keeping Handley running smoothly.

In conclusion 2023 was a very successful year for all involved with the Pre-school. I would like to thank the retiring Board of Management members, Kate Johns, Ali Hovey, Guy Morrow, Inna Van, Aruj Anand

And a big thanks to all our returning board members including Angus dockrill who is staying on as our president, Amanda Wheatley our secretary, Alex Kinsey who is moving from vice president to our community member and Sofie bachelor.

I would also like to thank the Class Parents under the direction of Kate Johns. The tremendous efforts and organisation with the fundraising activities is greatly appreciated. The wonderful events organised by the Social Committee not only helped to keep the Pre-school well-resourced but also provided opportunities for families to meet and build community spirit.

Finally, a huge thank you to the staff of Pymble Turramurra Pre-school, for their dedication and positive attitude each day. You all work so incredibly hard to ensure that the children and families at Handley get the absolute best, and I thank you for everything that you do.

As we look at 2024, I encourage you all to get involved, support and connect with each other over this coming year.

On behalf of the staff, may I say we are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning and friendship.

Thank you