Mount Pleasant & District Kindergarten
Annual Report 2015
1. CONTEXT

Preschool Name: Mount Pleasant & District Kindergarten
Preschool Number: 4638
Preschool Director: Jo Saunders
Partnership: Torrens Valley

Mount Pleasant is situated 64km from Adelaide CBD.

Mount Pleasant and District Kindergarten provides high quality, innovative Preschool Education and Occasional Care programs for 2-5 year old children from the township of Mount Pleasant and the wider surrounding areas including Birdwood, Mount Crawford, Williamstown, Springton, Eden Valley, Sanderston, Tungkillo, Palmer, Milendella and Mount Torrens.

It has been a wonderful and exciting year as the new Director at Mount Pleasant & District Kindergarten as together we have begun and made meaningful relationships with our preschool children, their families, staff and the wider community including the Mount Pleasant Primary School and the Springton Primary School.

The Director, Teacher and Early Childhood Worker at Mount Pleasant Kindergarten have worked closely during this year to deliver a child led play based curriculum which involves children’s voice while fostering their dispositions to learn. Developing strong dispositions gives children a sound foundation for lifelong learning. Together staff have also attended training and begun the familiarization and implementation of the Numeracy and Literacy Indicators throughout our play based program in preparation for use in 2016.

Our wonderful families and community have been incredibly supportive throughout the year and have continued to volunteer, fundraise and support the Kindergarten in many ways. This year also saw both the Director and Teacher receiving nominations of excellence in the SA Public Education Teaching Awards.

It is with pleasure that we present to you the 2015 Annual Report.

2. REPORT FROM GOVERNING COUNCIL

The Governing Council has had a great year during 2015. We did lots of fundraising and had fun while doing it. We have some new mums on the council and we said goodbye to others, which is always sad.

As always, we started the fundraising efforts at the Mount Pleasant Show everybody who helped out on the stand had a good time and we raised lots of money for new equipment.
During the year, we had our usual ‘Pie Drive’, which always brings in a good result. We also had our ‘Christmas Catalogues’, ‘Cookie Dough Fundraiser’, plus a ‘Car Boot Sale’. All these efforts require a lot of help, and a lot of organizing with our mums, dads, grandparents and staff pulling together with wonderful results.

Our last fundraising efforts were at the Christmas Street Parade, and the Christmas Twilight Farmers Market, and we are becoming pretty popular there with our sausages! We like having the farmers markets, and it lets us participate and fundraise within our community, because it’s for our community.

Our Governing Council is a small group of parents who work very hard. We love seeing new faces, and hearing new ideas.

This year saw us raising nearly $6000 for the Kindergarten, which was fantastic as we only had 20 children. We look forward to yet another successful year during 2016.

Regards,

Amanda

(Governing Council Chair Mum)

3. HIGHLIGHTS 2015

This year has seen many unique learning opportunities throughout our child led play based program including the following:

**Term 1**

**Being Confident**

Children were welcomed, given the opportunity to explore and become familiar with others, our environment and routines.

*Philosophy Tree began to grow as families added their values on leaves to our tree trunk. This became a great starting point to engage with families and to co-design a new philosophy.*

*Swimming Excursion to Woodside Pool and Playground built on our disposition of confidence for the term and involved families in the process along with water safety discussions and keeping our bodies safe.*

*Introduction of nature baskets to take home and share with families also provided learning opportunities for children to confidently collect natural items with families and return to share with others at preschool. The learning that stemmed from these baskets was inspiring and continued throughout the year as baskets continued to go home. This was a great starting point for children and staff to explore the new Numeracy Indicators as we collected, sorted and identified several natural objects and experimented with the new language. This led to further learning.*

*Mt Pleasant Show Children’s Display and fundraising stall was a wonderful event showcasing our preschool in our community and fundraising funds for new resources at the same time.*
*Following the exploration of insects in our yard a family bought in honey frames and harvesting implements and the beginnings of a research based project around bees.  
*Our Fairy Garden was established with many children co-designing and parents donating items to add to this unique play space.  
*Beginning of visits with the Mount Pleasant Primary School through a backwards transition approach. This saw past preschoolers coming back to play and engage in our environment and the opportunity to engage with their past teachers. It also provided a great learning opportunity for our current preschoolers to have older children visit and model play skills as well as confidence in having a go.  
*Mount Pleasant Kindy Butcher was opened. After children forming their own shop and exploring with props through dramatic play together we decided to extend on this learning and visit the local Mount Pleasant Butcher shop that one of our families own. Through our planning children decided they wanted to go shopping and children were encouraged to bring a dollar and purchase their own sausages. Together we made the journey to the butcher to see how sausages were made and then we all purchased our own sausages for a sizzle back at preschool.

**Term 2**  
**Being a Communicator**  
*Children’s interests in nature continued to blossom focusing on identifying insects as well as habitats with a focus on leaves and sticks. To build on these interests’ children and staff began a series of workshops with the Mount Pleasant Natural Resource Centre to construct our very own insect hotel. These included 3 main areas paper (these skills included cutting, rolling and folding paper materials), clay (these skills included manipulate, molding and designing) and construction (putting pallets, paper, clay and new stick components together to construct the insect hotel).  
*Lovely ladies morning tea to celebrate Mother’s Day  
- With many mums, aunties and grandmothers within the community attending providing a great opportunity for lovely ladies to connect and children to show their appreciation.  
*National Reconciliation Week Celebrations with Scott Rathman including a musical performance and dot painting activity as we embark on weaving indigenous culture back into our preschool.  
*The beginning of afternoon tea in our program. Children have begun to explore numeracy components involved in preparing space, setting a table and children brewing their own to help warm themselves up as the cooler weather develops
*Visits with the Mount Pleasant Primary School continued with the preschool beginning to now visit the school providing the learning opportunity for our preschoolers to become familiar with a schools setting, expectations and for some the teacher they may have next year.

*Celebrating of International Mud Day

**Term 3**

**Being Curious**

* We completed our last insect hotel session and it is now open for occupancy in our garden. Children have taken a great interest in this and continue to observe as they are curious as to who may come to stay and where. We followed this up by also participating in an insect audit at preschool for the University of South Australia, which had some amazing results.

*Celebrating National Tree Day by planting an apple tree in our garden which we look forward to fruiting in the future and sharing with our children.

*Baby craze hit and we began bathing, changing and feeding numerous babies. We even had a parent bring in her real baby for a bath and feed. This was a great learning opportunity as we have several children without siblings, others who are the youngest and those with a sibling on the way and we were able to capture some great discussions, routines and dramatic play which stemmed from this.

*The Moon is a Balloon Excursion

  - Lots of preparation was put into this excursion with several activities and discussions prior to and after the excursion taking place

*The implementation of our Child Protection Curriculum

  - This included a visit from the ambulance with one of our parents who is a volunteer. The learning from this opportunity was amazing and the language and play that followed was quite deep. It also provided the opportunity for one of our children to share her experiences after a serious accident which left her in hospital for a significant period of time.

*Book week celebrations which included afternoon tea and children bringing in their favourite book to share on our library shelves. This turned into three weeks of children bringing in their own books to share and generated a lot of interest in sharing books that it is now part of our preschool day.

*Excursion to Springton Primary School for activities, a tour of their vegetable patch and the learning opportunity for our preschoolers to continue their familiarization with school settings, expectations and for some the teacher they may have next year.
Term 4
Being Curious- transition to school
* Participated in loud shirt day to raise money for Cora Barkley and to raise awareness as one of our children attends and uses their services we raised over $20. This bought about many questions and meaningful discussions with our family very appreciative of the preschools participation and the raising of awareness.
* Adelaide Botanic Gardens Excursion where we also attended the Little Sprouts Kitchen Garden organised in conjunction with the Mount Pleasant Primary School. The learning opportunities associated with this were enormous. Many of our children had never been to the Botanic Gardens and asking the primary school to join us had many benefits. This was such a wonderful trip that we are planning to embark on a similar excursion next year to follow up.
* Spring Head Lutheran Primary School visited and performed songs
* End of year family sausage sizzle
  - Great turnout with over 60 adults attending for shared dinner, children’s singing and presentation of graduation certificates. This also saw the first sharing of our first acknowledgement to land, which was a teary moment but demonstrated how far we had travelled through the year. Parental feedback was overwhelming with families thrilled with the evening.

4. QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

During Term 4 2014, a pupil free day had been organised with the Director and Teacher participating in a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) review with our Early Childhood Leader, Pam Lutze. Together we went through our QIP with the assistance of the Self Review Discussion Record. Janet (the teacher) and myself (the new Director), found this process very valuable giving us great insight into the QIP and a firm platform for us to review our QIP, look at the priorities we had identified in the annual self-review and the key actions we needed to implement.

Quality Area 1
Key Priority-Making learning through play visible
Actions Included – Individual portfolios for all children, individual learning plans for all children, ensuring children’s voice and learning dispositions are captured as part of
our planning cycle, reporting on children’s learning with families each term providing
the opportunity to receive feedback as educators, the use of displays to share
learning with families, training for staff and opportunities for staff to reflect, refine,
implement and review learning opportunities.
Next Steps – Continue to refine this priority through the established actions
mentioned above while delving into the use of learning dispositions, Numeracy and
Literacy Indicators all in conjunction with EYLF. Programming regular reflection and
reviewing opportunities with time to implement while striving to meet all of the needs
of our individual children, families, our Torrens Valley Partnership Plan and the
DECD Strategic Plan.

Quality Area 2
Key Priority - Intergrade risk assessment process into daily operations to ensure a
safe, secure environment and learning opportunities
Actions Included – Risk assessments are regularly conducted and task implemented,
children’s voice to be heard and children to become involved in risk assessment
using words ‘safe’ and ‘not safe’ along with visual cues and the opportunity for
children to record and place their markings on paper. Director worked with facilities
manager and Corporate to receive funding to replace the gates and fence towards
the back of the property which has been successfully completed. We are currently
working on drainage problems which hope to have work conducted during the term 1
holiday’s during next year, 2016. Working with children, families and Governing
Council we became an allergy aware site due to the enrolment of a child who was
severely anaphylactic to nuts and had other food allergies including egg and dairy.
Next Steps – Continue to refine this priority through the actions mentioned above
while broadening the children’s knowledge around risk assessment and providing
more opportunities for children’s voice.

Quality Area 3
Key Priority - Embed sustainable practices (have been prominent in the past but not
current)
Actions Included – We generated a Sustainable Environmental Management Plan
(SEMP), we introduced labelled scrap and recycle bins, we began exploring a
vegetable patch which had been used in the past and began to reestablish it,
establish a worm farm, compost bin and we introduced chickens to our preschool
family once our child with the egg allergies past his egg challenge.
Next Steps – Continue to refine this priority through the actions mentioned above
including revisiting our SEMP plan and reviewing. We would also like to work on the
connections we have made during the year with follow up opportunities with the
Mount Pleasant Primary School, Mount Pleasant Natural Resource Centre and the
Little Sprouts Kitchen Garden while delving into the use of learning dispositions,
Numeracy and Literacy Indicators all in conjunction with EYLF.

Quality Area 4
Key Priority - To develop staff reflective practices and processes
Actions Included – process of collaboration, staff meetings, PLC around nature play,
establishing a program wall to interact with reflecting EYLF along with literacy and
Annual Report 2015

numeracy indicators, professional development meetings with staff, began using RRR to support reflective practices and took part in results plus

**Next Steps** – Continue to refine this priority through the actions mentioned above while delving deeper into the use of learning dispositions, Numeracy and Literacy Indicators all in conjunction with EYLF. Programming regular reflection and reviewing opportunities with time to implement while striving to meet all of the needs of our individual children, families, our Torrens Valley Partnership Plan and the DECD Strategic Plan.

**Quality Area 5**

Key Priority - Interactions with children and their families to support and stimulate deep/meaningful learning

**Actions Included** – training and development, disposition work, visual displays, child’s voice in programming and documentations, posts on out Facebook page, the newsletter

**Next Steps** – Continue to refine this priority through the actions mentioned above while delving into the language of learning dispositions, Numeracy and Literacy Indicators all in conjunction with EYLF to help further inform families and bring them on our learning journey with connections to our local community.

**Quality Area 6**

Key Priority - More parental involvement and school transition process

**Actions Included** – sharing of portfolios, templates home for feedback, connections with Mount Pleasant Primary, Springton Primary School, NRMA, Mount Pleasant Natural Resource Centre, websites, and newsletters

**Next Steps** – Continue to refine this priority through the actions mentioned above while delving into the continuity of learning with reference to learning dispositions, Numeracy and Literacy Indicators all in conjunction with EYLF. Continue with our backwards transition process and relationships formed with the feeder schools and their staff.

**Quality Area 7**

Key Priority - Reflect on all leadership and services management processes

**Actions Included** – induction folder, performance development process for staff, review of site policies, training and development as new Director, Director given the opportunity to participate in Diploma in Strategic Leadership

**Next Steps** – Continue to refine this priority through the actions mentioned above. Director to continue with Diploma and is due to complete by the middle of next year. Director has also found a mentor to help facilitate these processes.

5. **INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS**

Time was allocated to children requiring speech and language support as well as some behavior support after observations by staff, discussions in team meetings, talking with parents, then pre-referral conversations. We have been receiving up to 12 hours of support each week during 2015. These hours have been provided to work with 5 children who have been assessed by Kathryn Halyburton the Speech
Pathologist. These hours were used on a Thursday and every second Monday during our preschool program to implement the programs that Kathryn has designed.

We have found these programs to be very effective in supporting these children with their speech and language development as they prepare to continue their learning as they enter school. Hours were also received to support behavior and this had a focus on play and socialization skills and utilized in a group setting targeting the child in need as well as a small group of others that could also benefit from modeling and scaffolding of interactions during play. Through conversations families have shared that they had felt supported and that their children had progressed due to the effective and specialized support they had been receiving from the Preschool Support Program.

### 6. STUDENT DATA

#### 6.1 Enrolments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrolments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Figure 1: Enrolments by Term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Enrolments 2013 - 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We began the year with 14 enrolments which increased to 16 by the end of the second week. During the year we continued to grow completing the year with 20 enrolments.

### 6.2 Attendance

**Figure 2: Attendance by Term**

**Attendance Percentages 2013 - 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013 Centre</td>
<td>84.6</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Centre</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>89.5</td>
<td>89.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Centre</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 State</td>
<td>88.7</td>
<td>88.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 State</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>88.9</td>
<td>86.1</td>
<td>87.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Based on attendances recorded in the two week reference period each term, and calculated to an average unadjusted daily attendance (deemed attendance). Attendance percentages are based on the calculated deemed attendance (integer), divided by the number of enrolments. Excludes pre-entry Note: Figures have been revised for previous years, using integer deemed attendance not decimal.

Source: Preschool Data Collection, Data Management and Information Systems

Our attendance has been above State average for most of the year except during term three. During term three we experienced a significant number of children with illness. Our staff has very strong relationships with families and these result in families keeping us informed of any absences and sickness. As our attendance is so high when children are absent without notifying us we view this as unusual and staff follow up that day with a phone call.

### 6.3 Destination – Feeder Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site number - Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0242 - Angaston Primary School</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0293 - Mount Pleasant Primary School</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>44.4</td>
<td>35.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0408 - Springton Primary School</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>29.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0547 - Birdwood Primary School</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>29.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the percent of children currently enrolled who will attend school in the following year, where the expected school is known.

Due to rounding totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: Term 3 Preschool Data Collection, Data Management and Information Systems

Our location is central to many feeder schools and we find this is reflected in our data. Our children are spread evenly through our main feeder schools of Mount Pleasant Primary School, Birdwood Primary School and Springton Primary School. We had one child that went to the furthest feeder school, Angaston Primary as this is where her older siblings already attend.
We conducted our opinion survey during term three with 6 families choosing to participate, which represented 30% of our enrolments at that particular time of the year. Our feedback was very overwhelming with 100% respondents strongly agreeing that their children receive high quality teaching at our preschool.

Parent’s comments were also very positive around quality of teaching and learning. These comments included “The teachers are very enthusiastic and welcoming. It is a wonderful learning environment” and “We are very pleased with the care, interest and enthusiasm all educators of mt pleasant kindy show towards our daughters learning journey. They seek input from parents when setting social and academic goals and share achievements and milestones as they occur, actively taking an interest in each child’s unique strengths”.

Comments around support of learning were also encouraging including “The support at mt pleasant kindy is amazing- the educators are extremely supportive of all students and treat
them with respect, kindness and empathy whilst clearly establishing high expectations for learning and behavior”.

Parent’s comments were also very positive around relationships and communication. These comments included “the kindy is very welcoming and staff always make time to discuss and concerns. They always make our family feel welcome and valued and actively promote a strong sense of family and community involvement. The relationships that have been developed between our daughter and the educators is brilliant, they all have gone above and beyond to help her feel a safe and confident learner and she adores all the educators who work there”.

Parent’s comments were also very positive around leadership and decision making. These comments included “Parents are given plenty of opportunity to be involved if they want to be. The kindergarten is very much involved in the community and the community supports the kindergarten”, “it is well organized and well directed” and “Jo is an excellent director who is always seeking input and feedback for improvement. I always feel that my opinions are valued and she is always inviting parents and community members to be involved”.

Other comments also included “I would highly recommend this kindergarten and the caring and amazing staff”.

8. ACCOUNTABILITY

Mount Pleasant & District Kindergarten participated in a SAFE Screening Audit on the 23/09/2014. As a result there were several Actions Required. These have been addressed during 2015 by generating staff and volunteer’s files, a list to record clearances and expiry dates and preparing DCSI screening forms to be handed out to new Governing Council Members at our AGM in readiness for 2016.

9. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Grants: State</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Grants: Commonwealth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Parent Contributions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please refer to appendix 1 for our end of year profit and loss statement.
Appendix One

Mount Pleasant & District Kindergarten
11 Saleyard Road
Mount Pleasant SA 5235
ABN: 96 592 164 721
Email: dl.4638_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
Created: 1/03/2016 12:10 PM

Profit & Loss Statement
January 2015 To December 2015
This report includes Year-End Adjustments.

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Income
Parent Contributions
Kindy Fees $9,232.50
Occasional Care income $1,990.50
Excursions & Performances $616.59
Fundraising
fundraising general income $3,896.75
Pie Drive income $2,522.50
Raffles income $899.00
bbqs income $2,042.30
Show $646.00
Street Party $936.95
Sales
Qothing $284.28
Other Income
Donations $393.80
Interest Bank SA $9.14
Interest SASIF $452.03
TRT & Training Reimbursement $10,890.40
Governing council $40.00
other $71.01
Grants
DECD Recurrent Funding $180,044.47
Electrical Testing Grant $50.00
grants other $4,663.68
Total Income $219,681.90
Gross Profit $219,681.90

Expenses
Curriculum
Curriculum materials $2,710.94
Curriculum Equipment $2,314.14
Excursions & Performances $782.64
Telephone $411.15
Water $1,481.10
Gas $834.90
Emergency Services Levy $133.35
Council Rates $209.00
Electricity $1,341.55
Administration
Postage and Freight $258.12
stationery $8.14
Photocopier agreement $2,006.06
Total Curriculm $12,491.09
Paper & Toner $409.55
Office Equipment $5,262.80
Facilities
Grounds Maintenance $626.70
Contract Cleaning $3,693.75
Mount Pleasant & District Kindergarten
11 Saleyard Road
Mount Pleasant SA 5235
ABN: 96 592 164 721
Email: dl.4638_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
Created: 1/03/2016 12:10 PM

Profit & Loss Statement
January 2015 To December 2015
This report includes Year-End Adjustments.

Total Facilities $6,284.35

Fundraising
Fundraising general expense $2,605.99
Pie Drive $1,899.08
Raffles expense $335.90
Bbqs expense $1,141.93
Show stall $165.00
Street Party $331.08
Total Fundraising $6,478.98

Sales
Clothing $154.76
Total Sales $154.76

Employment Expenses
Training & Development $1,190.91
Director & Teacher $153,825.81
Ancillary $19,693.80
TRT $6,576.06
Total Employment Expenses $181,286.58

Other Expenses
Bank fees $42.30
Gratitudes $72.96
Governing Council $90.89
First Aid Supplies $146.25
Other - $30.00
End of year adjustments - $2.47
Total Other Expenses $319.93
Total Expenses $212,688.04

Operating Profit $6,993.86
Total Other Income $0.00
Total Other Expenses $0.00
Net Profit/(Loss) $6,993.86