

Kinma

Kinma Newsletter T3 Week 1, Friday 26th June, 2015

Welcome back to everyone !

Term 3 is underway and the feeling is bright and bubbly.

Welcome to our new families in Preschool and to the families who have come from Preschool to Primary.

If there are any questions or information that you would like please stop anyone – parents, staff and children to find your answers.

A big welcome to our new staff in Primary – Katie and Tristan. Tristan is working and playing in group 2 and group 1, while Katie is working and playing in group 3 and group 1 Please make yourselves known to them.

WHAT'S ON

04.08.15	Gp3 Parent meeting - 2.45pm
05.08.15	Gp2 parent meeting - 2.45pm
06.08.15	Gp1 Parent meeting - 2.45pm
10.08.15	Tinkering Day
12.08.15	School Tour - 9.30am
13.08.15	An evening with Robin Grille 7.30pm
15.08.15	Kinma Care Day (1.30-4.30pm)
03.09.15	School Tour - 9.30am
07.09.15	Learning forum (6.30-8.30pm)
15.09.15	Tinkering Day
18.09.15	Last day Term 3
07.10.15	First day Term 4
24.10.15	Trivia Fundraising Night
16.12.15	Last day Term 4

Calling for help with Snack Attack!

Please contact Hayley Lewis

hayleyjl@tpg.com.au or call

0435 145 486



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Andy Lamond

Just letting everyone know that our wonderful teacher and friend Andy is on sick leave this week and next. Andy has a post op infection and needs rest (which is hard to get at Kinma and being Andy). We are all sending him love and hugs for a speedy recovery. Grace is being supported by all the staff and things are well under control I group 1 (well that is an interesting thought in itself!).

Kinma waste

Well we have started !!!!!

Many thanks to a couple of families who came and tidied up the compost bins in primary and placed them in clear sight for all students and adults to utilise.

The students in primary are walking their ways through eating morning tea and lunch composting the leftovers (if staff feel a child is not eating enough of the lunch it will be sent home so families are aware) and packing their packaging etc back into their bags. We have left a rubbish bin outside of the kitchen for this week, however next week we will remove it. If families come in they also need to be responsible for taking home their waste (coffee cups, sandwich wrappers etc) home with them.

Playgroup will start to compost their waste each Monday with one of the parents emptying into the large bins each week.

The next step is discussions with Preschool, but we will wait for Kay to return so there is input from all staff.

The other benefit from this is that we are re-looking at our waste collection with URM and we think we may be able to reduce this significantly and possibly save on trucks driving to collect the waste at the School and \$\$ maybe as much as \$3,000.00 per year.

Further down the track we are looking into ways of separating our coloured and plain paper for possible clean recycling and payment for separating.

If you have other thoughts and ideas send them on through.

Ticks

It would seem that ticks are increasing in number at the moment. I would really appreciate if you remember to let me know if your child picks up a tick from School. Due to the recent media discussions we are not removing the ticks but applying vaseline and contacting families.

The Preschool was sprayed late in term 2 so there may not be any issues there.

Primary will be scheduled for spraying in the next couple of weeks when we have some clear days.

Claire, Carin and Julie

Education Co-ordinator

For those of you who may not be aware, Arne Duncan is an American education administrator who has been United States Secretary of Education since 2009. He previously served as chief executive officer of the Chicago Public Schools district from 2001-2009. His scenario, painted below is typical of the trashing of the vision of education as a joyful and challenging learning experience by making education into a political and economical pawn. Your thoughts, as always welcome. jg

Article from Chicago Now Friday 10th July

The news tells us this week that Arne Duncan's family is moving back to Chicago and his children are enrolling at the University of Chicago Lab School in the fall.

There, they'll join the mayor's children.

Lab is an excellent, well-resourced private school with a rich arts curriculum, small classes, entire rooms devoted to holding musical instruments, a unionized teaching staff that you pretty much never hear anyone suggesting should be replaced by untrained temp workers, and not one single standardized test until students reach age 14.

In other words, Lab School has to date experienced *not one ounce of influence* from Arne Duncan's Department of Ed. Not one ounce of impact from his policies.

Not.

One.

He's choosing to keep his kids out of the system that requires nearly continuous standardized testing each year: three iterations of the PARCC, three of the NWEA MAP, the REACH Performance Tasks; the NAEP, TRC + DIBELS, mClass Math, and IDEL specially for littles; and EXPLORE, PLAN, COMPASS, and STAR for bigs.

I know, he's told us, like a father, it's okay. Our kids can do this. It's what's best. It's challenging. What kind of message does it send our children if we object to a challenge? He's gotten this narrative out far and wide, so that folks who don't have kids in school now can often be seen saying things in newspaper comments sections like, "Why can't these whiners just shut up and take the test?" or "What a bunch of weaklings! These kids and parents don't have any spines anymore if they don't want to take the test!"

You'll note, in these kinds of comments sections, that it is always *the test*. As if there is one.

What those commenters don't know is that the endless stream of tests, accompanying prep, and supporting curricula are low-quality dreck, and they have very little to do with actual learning. They do, however, have a lot to do with bubbling in bubbles and guessing what adults expect.

No, those commenters may not know how bad the situation is for public schools right now in terms of testing.

But Arne Duncan does. [He crafted the testing policy and now calls it a civil right.](#)

He's choosing to keep his kids out of a system that spends so much time and money on testing that there's little time left, and no money, for stuff that's not on the tests: history, science, art, music.

And why would schools spend resources they don't have on things that will not keep the wolf away? Why would schools sink time and money into music or geography if they are judged solely on test scores in reading and math, and will lose funding if their scores don't show constant improvement?

So the district invests in what is required by the feds, and what pays. And hundreds and *hundreds* of millions are spent on reading and math testing and prep, and all associated accoutrements. Illinois paid Pearson, the Common Core curriculum and testing delivery giant, \$160M for a 4 year PARCC contract. And that's just one test. What about all the others? And how about the companies that produce the test prep, the e-games, the software, the hardware? The iPads that become obsolete every couple years? Most folks don't know the wild extent of the profits generated for testing companies, nor the extreme degree of influence their lobbyists have over our federal legislators.

But Arne Duncan does. [He set up the business relationships himself.](#)

He's choosing to keep his kids out of a system that is constantly on the edge of financial disaster.

CPS may not even open on time in the fall; it may be bankrupt. That's due to lots of things--lack of mayoral priority and pension obligations that the state and the city don't have the political will to uphold. But beyond those are other cash-draining and questionable priorities that come straight from the feds: staggering payouts for testing as mentioned above, and massive investments in charter schools that have yet to deliver anything in return.

You may not know all the complicated details of the stick and carrot (and stick) scheme that is Race To The Top, and what corners it requires schools to cut in order to win the race, or even place. You may not know how much public school money gets diverted to privatization.

But Arne Duncan does. He's the one who [tied school funding to test scores](#) in the first place. He's the one who has [promoted charter schools like a pom pom shaking cheerleader](#) for his entire tenure.

By now Arne Duncan knows too much to send his kids to public school. Even so, he remains committed to all the policies and reforms he imposed based on zero research. Nevertheless he senses, as every corporate education controller senses, that the education he prescribes for other people's children isn't quite right for his own. In the fall he'll be sending his kids to just the kind of school he's been yearning for--one blissfully free of his own influence.

http://www.chicagonow.com/chicago-public-fools/2015/07/arne-duncan-chooses-a-school-free-from-his-influence/?utm_source=7-12&utm_campaign=11%2F23%2F2014&utm_medium=email

Learning forums

AT KINMA FOR FAMILIES AND STAFF

What is a Learning Forum ?

A gathering for parents and staff to dialogue areas of interest in Kinma's practice and pedagogy.

Why hold Learning Forums ?

We hold forums so that

- Parents can come to understand the practices and philosophy of Kinma. As our school works differently to mainstream schools we need gatherings in which people can openly discuss the processes and ways of Kinma
- That all of us can get to know other members of the school community in a relatively child free zone
- We can share the concept of dialogue as a key tool of communication. For two reasons
 - 1) It is vital as a means of encouraging open communication
 - 2) To show you one of the key modes we engage in with your children – both in class and as a means of living with daily conflict
- Lastly, to raise challenges and sit with what may be uncomfortable- for sitting in discomfort is a key route to learning.

When are they held ?

Termly, except for the term when the School on Sunday Open Day is held for the Kinma community and those interested in finding out about us.

This term it is on Monday 7th September - 6.30-8.30

What is the topic for Term 3 ?

What are you interested in?

Staff are looking at topics at the moment and we would like your input.

Please write your ideas to juli on julig@kinma.nsw.edu.au


Snack Attack:

Main Course	\$3.00
Dessert	\$1.50
Drink	50¢ (usually juice)

Snack Attack has been a part of Kinma for a very long time...and how wonderful for the children to have their parents come in and fill the air with a good home-cooked meal. There have been some amazing foods and traditional goodies that parents have become loved and famous for.

There are 68 children in the Primary and 19 in Preschool on Wednesdays.

We have 17 gluten-free, 10 dairy-free children, and 3 vegetarians. If your child is any or all of these 3, please let me know.

Usually we have 2-3 parents that come in on a Wednesday and one makes the Main and the other Dessert and drinks ...or you do it all together on the day. It is a great way to meet and get to know the parents of Kinma and spend the day with the children.

Like everything at Kinma it is a very relaxed easy day. There are not many rules, all we ask is for it not to be too junky and offer vegetarian, dairy-free and gluten-free options.

The kids really enjoy Snack attack, and it's great when we can make Snack Attack happen every week. Below are the dates for Term 1 Snack Attack.

SNACK ATTACK TERM 3, 2015

Calling for helpers!

July 22	no SNACK ATTACK
July 29	Lisa G & Sally A & Gemma
Aug 5	volunteers needed
Aug 12	Gemma Keane & Nic +1
Aug 19	volunteers needed
Aug 26	Amy W helpers needed
Sep 2	Amanda & Rachel Pines +1
Sep 9	Renee B & Katerina +1
Sep 18	volunteers needed

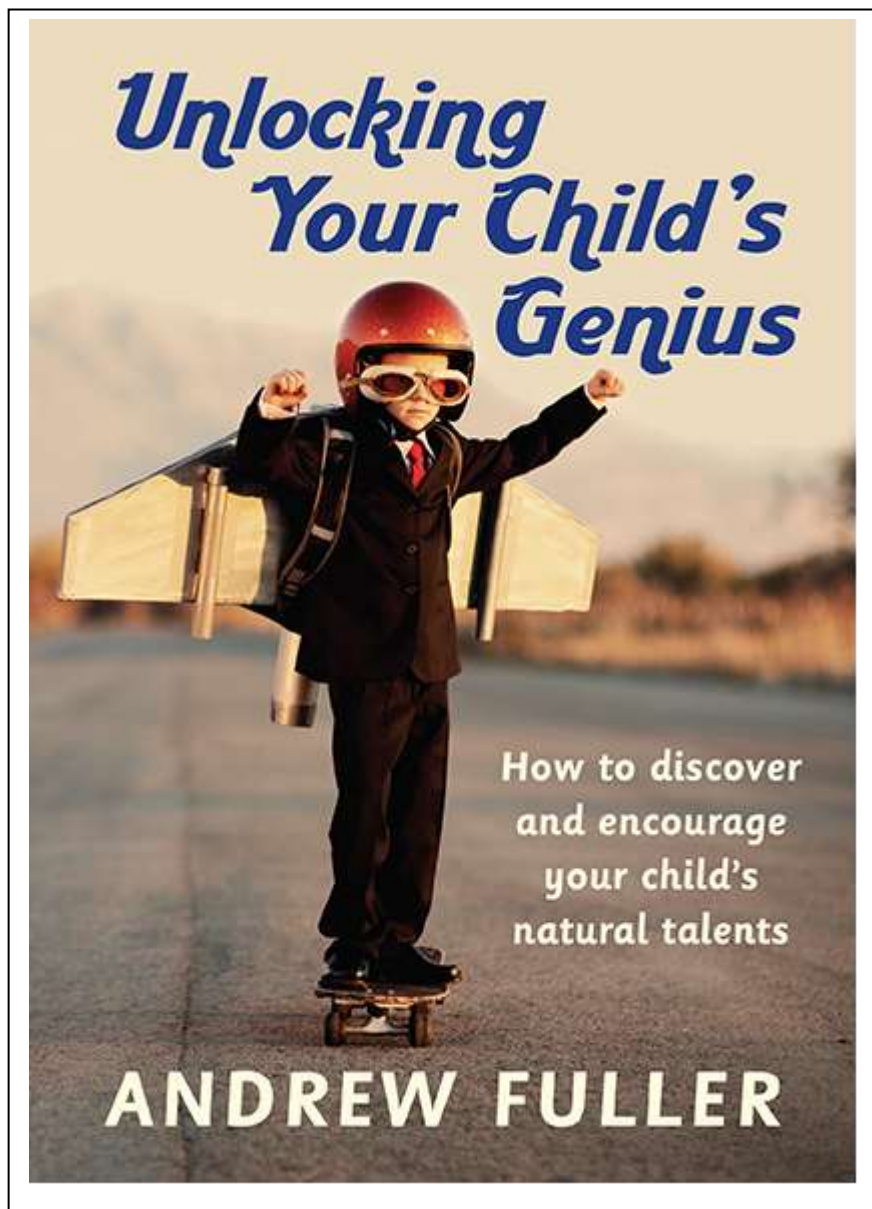
Some examples of successful meals have included Chicken wings/ drumsticks and salad, tacos, nachos, pasta dishes, pizza, sushi, quiche, fruit and yoghurt, baked apples with cream/yoghurt, natural ice blocks... and much more.

All expenses for ingredients are reimbursable.

If you have any questions or want to contribute please email me at hayleyjl@tpg.com.au or call 0435 145 486.

Thanks,
Hayley Lewis (Turiee's mum)

Extras



Barrenjoey High School and Berkelouw Books invite you to meet Andrew Fuller when he speaks on *Unlocking Your Child's Genius* at Barrenjoey High School.

Every parent wants their child to be the best they can possibly be, but how do you discover and encourage your child's particular natural talents?

Clinical psychologist **Andrew Fuller** believes that all children have an innate sense of curiosity that is fundamental to creativity and lateral thinking. However social conditioning and school can lead to a desire to conform and fit in which dampens that exuberance and curiosity.

Join us at 6.30pm on Thursday July 23rd, at Barrenjoey High School, when Andrew Fuller explores the skills and environments that are essential for launching a child on a lifelong journey of exploration.

Bookings are essential and can be made online by following [this link](#) (fees apply), by phone on 9979 2112 or by reply to this email. Cost is \$ 7.00.

Full details [here](#).

Please note that 10% of ticket and book sales achieved at this event will be donated by Berkelouw Books to Barrenjoey High School.

BASKETBALL PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAGUE (POTTER) WILL START IN TERM THREE 2015

The competitions are in school years divisions are Mixed year one/two, mixed year three/four, on Tuesdays @ NBISC (starts August 4th),

for Boys year five/six & girl's league year 3-4 div and year 5-6 div will be at NBISC on Saturday afternoons (starts August 8th). You can enter

your existing team now at the MWBA office or enter as an individual by completing the form attached and handing it or Email/Faxing

it in to MWBA.

Pink Ball an exciting "girls only" training for girls

aged 12 and under will run again in term four starting Saturday 25th July

and run till 12th September 2.30-3.30pm bookings are essential

get your form in quick (fill out & return the attached form.)

Saturday Basketball trainings resumes back this Saturday 18th July.

Biddy Ball 2.30-3.30pm under 7 age group with Mark, Nick & Jerome 3.30-4.30pm 8s

and over age group with Mark, Nick & Jerome just \$9. No booking required.

Info form attached.

Manly Warringah primary and high school basketball leagues start next week to enter a team call MWBA on 99133622

Manly Warringah basketball programs can be downloaded from the website <http://www.manlybasketball.com.au/portal/>

RELAX. RECHARGE. REFRESH
BECAUSE YOU'RE SPECIAL TOO!



We made you a promise ...

... and thanks to some funding from Carer's NSW & our wonderful contributors listed overleaf, we are excited to announce

RELAX . RECHARGE . REFRESH

This unique day is for parents of children with ADHD, who often find daily life overwhelming, taking little time to focus on their own needs. Looking after yourself is not a selfish act but essential to being able to be the best parent you can be. You can't give of your best if you have nothing left to give!

Relax . Recharge . Refresh will allow you to take time out to invest in your personal health & wellbeing.

Our health gurus will share strategies on gaining more balance & harmony in your life - re-thinking the way you do things, exercise, nutrition, yoga, the use of essential oils & meditation. You'll totally relax with the free mini massage, lunch & morning/afternoon tea or just chatting to other parents who understand - all overlooking stunning Avalon Beach and the ocean.

Not only will you take away many life-changing strategies from our presenters, but as we've been generously supported by some beautiful, healthy & environmentally conscious companies, you'll also walk away with an inspiring gift bag to continue the experience at home.

So go on... spoil yourself...

Vivian & Louisa



Sunday 16th August 2015

9.45-3.30pm

Avalon SLSC

Tickets only \$30

Book via Eventbrite

Northern Beaches



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