

Kinma

Kinma Newsletter T3 Week 2, Friday 31st July, 2015

Working Bee

Hi All

Just a quick reminder that this term's Kinma Care Day (working bee) will be on Saturday, 15 August, from 1.30pm to 4.30pm.

This is our time to bring out the best in Kinma for our children to enjoy every day. We will be working on general maintenance to tidy up after the winter weather. So bring your gardening equipment and some warm winter cheer!

As always, it is a great time to get to know each other and build that special community connection that is so strong at Kinma. We will have a sausage sizzle/BBQ at the end of the day.

If you are not able to attend, please check with Julie or Claire in the office for a task you can do in your own time so that you don't have to pay the E&M levy.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Best wishes

Dylan Forbes

E&M Coordinator

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
11.08.15	Preschool morning tea
12.08.15	School Tour - 9.30am
13.08.15	An evening with Robin Grille 7.00pm
15.08.15	Kinma Care Day (1.30-4.30pm)
02.09.15	Preschool parent information session 3:15
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



Kinma Board

Nick Georges, Chairperson

T: 0412 106 633

E: nick.georges@gmail.com

Ginny Neighbour,

Governance (Community Rep.)

T: 9880 2492

E: ginny.neighbour@gmail.com

Steve Dixon, Fundraising

T: 0412 949 441

E: stevengarrydixon@me.com

Lisa Graaug

T: 0409 924 630

E: lisa@yogainstitute.com.au

Bea Pierce, Marketing

T: 0405 346 018

E: ninianlif@gmail.com

Stephen Cole, Treasurer

T: 0432 032 343

E: stephen.cole1910@gmail.com

Jonathan Kelt,

Education Committee

T: 0425 225 174

E: jonathankelt@mac.com

Pam Webster,

Director Emeritus

E: pamwebs@gmail.com

Administration

Water bottles

We are breeding very good quality water bottles at Primary . Do you own one? Do you want one, two or three?

They are outside the kitchen and available for the taking.

Tea towels

Thank you to the tea towel fairies who donated some lovely ones to the primary. Any other spare tea towels out an about that we could be gifted?

Waste

This is going to be my topic for this term. Like the groups I will have a theme on waste.

We have started well with the children all taking their non cycling rubbish home and composting their scraps. Families if you come for a coffee or sit down and you have waste please can you add it to the compost or take it home. We will make this work is for all of us to role model and remind each other. We do have yellow bins for plastic bottles and tins - BUT check if what you are dropping into the bin is in fact possible to recycle.

We are looking at ways for the children to check the paper and bottle recycling bins so that they can monitor how well we are recycling.

We may need one or two more compost bins. Does anyone have one at home that they would like to offer up? Let's hope by the summer vacation we are gifting good organic soil !!!

Fees

A reminder to all families (who are not paying by direct debit) fees are due and payable on the 7TH August, 2015.

Claire, Carin and Julie

Education Co-ordinator

Chomsky on learning and assessment ...

[Noam Chomsky: Bubble Tests “Destroy Any Meaningful Educational Process”](#) By Diane Ravitch July 19, 2015 // 37

Chomsky is a philosopher, not a statistician or an economist. He looks behind the facade of data to ask “why are we doing this?” “What are the consequences?” “What is the value of collecting the data?” “Why?”

Statisticians and economists (fortunately, not all of them) tend to think that when they have collected enough data, they will reach conclusions about the data. They think the data is as solid as “how many cars of this model sold? what was the profit margin? how should we price next year’s model to maximize profit?” or “how high will corn grow with this amount of fertilizer? how many acres should be planted with this seed?”

The starry-eyed data-mongers believe that children can be measured like any agricultural or mechanical product.

But teachers know that children are not corn; they are not electrical appliances; they are not engineered; they are all different.

We need to listen to philosophers. We need to think about what we are doing to children and to teachers by treating them as products of a process that can be tightly controlled.

Chomsky says:

In recent years there’s a strong tendency to require assessment of children and teachers, so that you have to teach to the tests, and the test determines what happens to the child and what happens to the teacher. That’s guaranteed to destroy any meaningful educational process.

It means a teacher cannot be creative, imaginative, pay attention to individual students’ needs. The students can’t pursue things that – maybe some kid is interested in something, but you can’t do it because you need to memorize something for this test tomorrow. The teacher’s future depends on it as well as the student’s.

The people sitting in offices, the bureaucrats designing this, they’re not evil people, but they are working within a system of ideology and doctrines, which turns what they are doing into something extremely harmful.

By treating children and teachers as widgets, we destroy the meaning of education. The rankings derived from data, Chomsky says, are meaningless because the tests are artificial social constructs.

http://dianeravitch.net/2015/07/19/noam-chomsky-bubble-tests-destroy-any-meaningful-educational-process/?utm_source=7-26&utm_campaign=11%2F23%2F2014&utm_medium=email

Teachers' teachers

Tanika and Damascian weave nature dream catchers.
 Their calm draws me. No words to explain the feeling.
 T up a tree, stable in the tree, part of the tree.
 D on the land, strong with the land, part of the land.
 They know.
 They feel.
 They understand deep somewhere
 I fear my words interrupt their knowing
 I fear my analysis disturbs their feelings

Amelie, Silvie, Piper and Amos mush rock and earth and slug
 Their curiosity draws me. No thought to match the feeling
 A observes, S squashes, P pokes, A observes

They learn
 They feel
 They understand deep somewhere
 I fear my words deconstruct their knowing
 I fear my analysis tampers their feelings

Harley, Nathanael, Archie, Gilad, Seb, Heath, Noah, run, roll, jump, tumble
 Their disquiet draws me. No sounds to match the feeling
 H hurls, N speeds the tunnel, A aims headlong, G focuses S who flips a bar to miss H, N reports
 They learn
 They feel
 They understand deep somewhere
 I fear my words may jar their knowing
 I fear my analysis misinterprets their feelings

When do I leave them be?
 When do I say or do or move something?
 There is no rule for me to follow
 I am at Kinma

There is a beautiful being, this beautiful being, at this moment to come to know
 There is a beautiful bunch, this beautiful bunch, at this moment, to come to know
 There is a beautiful land, this beautiful land, at this moment to come to know
 I come to know ... as do we all; Christine, Michelle, Kay, Suzanne, Felicity, Grace, Pat, Bea, Lizzie, Andy, Nina, Rosie
 And so too Tristan and Katie will come to know
 As best we can at this moment

We watch, we listen,
 We share, we decide,
 We may get it right this time, we may err this time
 We will never know which is which
 Our calm allows us to observe, our curiosity drives us, our disquiet impels us
 Above all, our deep caring guides
 Thank you children for you are our teachers.

Group 1



Overview, Term 3 2015

Welcome back to Term 3 and a time that is sure to be quite an adventure!

We hope you had a fun mid-year break and that you're all ready for the journey ahead! This week we welcome Amelie, Amos, Piper and Sylvie into our group alongside their families- be sure to say hi and introduce yourselves if you haven't already.

Term 3 is going to have an African flavour to tie in with our 'Musica' Viva visit. During week 5 we will have musicians perform traditional music from Senegal. Prior to their visit, Group 1 will learn then teach the rest of the school a song called 'Wa deukeubile'. The song is sung in the Wolof language and retells a story of a town that was overrun by mice so they used this song alongside body percussion to scare them away.

During a class meeting about the use of our space at the end of Term 2, the children asked if the back deck (not the wood one) could be made into a music deck (someone wanted to "rock out" at lunchtimes!). We thought these two ideas could be linked in some way...we'll see what direction the children take with that. Are there any drummers out there that would like to be involved in any way? Any musical ideas/expertise welcomed, please let us know!

To lead into this theme, we will read and explore 'Jungle Drums' by Graeme Base. This beautifully illustrated book is not only set in Africa and contains an array of wildlife but also explores concepts of the similarities and differences among us and acceptance of those things that make each and every one of us unique. A beautiful book perfect for reconnecting the children, warts and all!

This theme is so broad and could go in many directions. We will follow the children's lead but expect that it will be a theme with many geography, history, art and music links. We hope to explore an environmental/sustainability issue but will wait to see what the children 'bring to the table'.

Literacy:

Andy and Grace will continue having some time in the week with groups of children. During this time, skills such as letter formation, phonemic awareness, reading, spelling, grammar and more are explored. These sessions are planned for their groups according to the needs of those children and where they are in their journeys.

We will also share whole group literacy sessions in which the children can apply these skills. This term, we will learn an oral retelling of 'Handa's Surprise' using the Talk4Writing model. The children will learn the story using a story map and retell it using actions. It is a style of delivery that offers something for every type of learner: visual (the story map pictures), kinaesthetic (the actions) and auditory (the sound of the story). Further, it introduces the other learning styles so that all can learn new ways to collect understandings. Once the structure of the narrative is embedded, the children 'imitate' the plot by adjusting features. Without even realising it, they will create their own story!

This will be recorded by creating a story map of their own.

Maths:

Again Andy and Grace will have grouped sessions in which many areas of maths will be explored. These include number, shape and measurement. These sessions will include a Mental Oral Starter and then consist of a mixture of guided activities and self-directed inquiry.

Likewise, we will have whole group maths times. These will be open ended activities in which the children can apply their maths skills in a hands on way. Ideas for this term include designing a safari park (to meet certain criteria) and building a safari truck to carry a given number of passengers. (This kind of activity covers a range of outcomes- often referred to as a STEAM activity: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths).

In other news...

In the before mentioned class meeting, we had a discussion about the 'dress up' loft and the children felt the space wasn't used as well as it could be. After talking through ideas (an exercise loft was ruled out- by the children- because of the slanted roof) they decided that they wanted it to be a 'calm', 'chilled' space where they could go to do things such as drawing, making pompoms and finger knitting, perhaps even a touch of meditation. Therefore, this term will see the loft developing into a craft type space. We are already collecting resources to be used up there. If you are a crafty type, please, we'd love some help (and Grace is desperate to learn how to use a sewing machine...and crochet...and knit- could you teach her alongside children, how fab would it be for them to see Grace on a learning journey that many of them are far ahead on themselves?)

Also, we were looking back at our time together at the end of last term and many of the children fondly recalled 'Rainbow Fish' and 'Scaredy Squirrel' from last year. For newer parents, we shared the books and then the children each had the puppet for a night at home, drew up their adventures and then recounted their tales to the class the next day. Watch out for a new puppet arriving in class sometime soon! When the puppet arrives in your home, please feel no pressure 'to perform'. The point of the exercise is for the children to have fun and use their imagination. Engage with them creating scenarios and they can draw/write it up.

Phew! Sounds like quite a term! As well as our theme, the children will have 'Open Space' time to do with as they wish- create performances, paint, construct, wander, sit, play.

Join us for Book boxes Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays if you can!

Just before we sign off, we have a favour to ask; could we please encourage everyone to attempt prompter arrivals to school? We know it may be misleading that we don't gather the children to the carpet until ten past 9 and that we let the children mill until then. However, these ten minutes allow us time to connect with each other, offer a relaxing start and sets up a positive mood for the day. We find that we are gathering together later and later because of the low number of children that are present and settled by that time. Having to postpone our start ever day eats into time elsewhere and means that children are missing out on the overview of the day and the start of story time. We also notice that the children find it harder to come in and join us when they have missed out on this time. Important social connections among children for the day are also made at that time.

We know that traffic can throw a spanner in the works and that some mornings just go wonky but it really is in the best interest of the children to get them here for 9am and let them have that reconnection time.

Many thanks!

Andy and Grace

Group 3

Overview

Welcome to term 3!! We know that things are going to change this term and our aim is for this to happen with minimal disruption to our exciting learning journey in Group 3.

Africa is our theme for the term and this has been inspired by a visit by Musica Viva with a performance by 'Teranga'.

There will be singing and dancing from Senegal and they will be performing at Kinma on Thursday 20th August. We will spend the first few weeks of the term exploring African sounds and movements, body percussion, rapping and learning some of the songs and actions so we can join in with the performance.

Our 'African Adventures' theme will incorporate drumming, mask making, the art of story telling, creative writing, cooking and digital story books. Our maths will be contextual where possible exploring maps, big numbers (populations), distances etc. We've brainstormed with the children on their ideas, interests and questions on Africa and we will endeavour to follow these lines of interest over the course of the term.

We will be holding parent / teacher meetings this term. Please come and see us to make a time that's convenient.

Basketball continues on Friday morning. Your child will either take part at the 8.30 - 9.00 or the 9.00 - 9.30 slot. They know which group they are in. Please make sure that they arrive on time for their session with Jerome. His time with us is limited and precious and if they are late then they will miss out! French with Morag continues and this term we are going to have yoga with Mikaela also on a Friday. This will start in week 3.

Some dates for your diary:

Group 3 information afternoon - Tuesday 4th August at 2:45 pm.

Tinkering Day #1 - Monday 10th August - usual deal, please see jg if you can offer any assistance.

Friendship seed day - Wednesday 2nd September

Learning Forum - Monday 7th September 6.30 - 8.30.

Tinkering Day #2 - Tuesday 15th September

Group 3 Camp - TERM 4: Monday 19th October - Wednesday 21st October.

Looking forward to a term of fun-filled African learning with the group.

Michelle and Katie XX



Long lost Kinma friends meet up in USA!


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 & Liz
Aug 19	volunteers needed
Aug 26	Amy W helpers needed
Sep 2	Amanda & Rachel Pines & Karen Saint
Sep 9	Preschool
Sep 18	Renee B & Katerina +1

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

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/>

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... 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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