



Term Dates:

Term 4: Tues 10 Oct - Fri 15 Dec

Term 4

Date	Time	What's On
Week 9		
05/12/17	9.00 – 10.30am Primary	Kids Christmas Market – all welcome
07/12/17	9.30am, Start in Primary	Transitioners & Group 1 Bushwalk
08/12/17	12.15pm, Hall	Group 3 Play
09/12/17	4-7pm, Hall	Gratitude Celebration – everyone welcome *RSVP by 5/12
Week 10 onwards		
11/12/17	2pm, Primary	Party for juli g – everyone welcome
13/12/17	2.15pm, Preschool	Preschool End of Year Celebration & Farewells
14/12/17	Preschool, time tbc	Hanukkah Storytelling Session
15/12/17	12.30pm, Primary then Hall	Picnic Lunch (Byo) followed by Pre-High Farewells Last day T4
Dates for 2018		
31/01/18	9am	First day Term 1
14-16/3/18	Three days Wednesday - Friday	Primary Yurt Farm Camp
13/04/18		Term 1 finishes
02/05/18	9am	First day Term 2
06/07/18		Term 2 finishes
01/08/18	9am	First day Term 3
28/09/18		Term 3 finishes
16/10/18	9am	First day Term 4
14/12/18		Term 4 finishes



Monday 11th December - from 2pm

Party for juli g in Primary

Come and join us as we celebrate and farewell our amazing juli g – please bring a plate to share. Everyone welcome!

Board

Kinma Board and Staff invite you all to our annual Gratitude Gathering.

We hope you can join us.



Kinma Gratitude Gathering

*Saturday 9th December
4.00 - 7.00pm*

*We invite you to come together
to share supper and
sing some favourite songs,
while giving thanks for 2017
and our wonderful community.*

*RSVP by 5th December
to the office: 9450 0738
or claire@kinma.nsw.edu.au*

Photo by Damascín Georges Cosgrove

Admin

Outstanding Accounts

There are a few accounts not paid. Can we ask to have all accounts finalised in the next week please. It is very important for the cash flow of the School to keep on top of our termly fees.

Lost Property



There are a lot of lost property items – please come and take a look to see if any of it belongs to your family. Left over items will be washed and cleaned and put in a charity bin at the end of term.

Party for Juli G

The party to celebrate Juli G will happen on Monday 11th December from 2pm in Primary. Please come and join us.

Collection for Northern Beaches Homeless Youth

We would like to help youth on the street of the Northern Beaches so they can possibly have it a little bit easier.

We need your help! We are hoping that together we may be able to get these, and these are things we think young teenagers doing it tough may want:

- Deodorants
- Wipes
- Make up
- Hair brush / comb
- Opal cards
- Movie tickets
- Books/journal
- Tooth brush
- Toothpaste
- Sun screen
- Hand balls
- Gift vouchers
- Insect repellent
- Stationery – nice pencils and paper



Donations can be dropped off to the Office and Preschool.

Thanks.

Carin, Julie and Claire

Education Co-ordinator

READING AT KINMA

- What is the purpose of reading?
- How is Reading taught at Kinma?

These are ongoing questions which need regular addressing by all of us who consider ourselves learners at Kinma. At the recent Education Committee meeting we asked this question, at staff meetings we pose this question often.

What distinguishes Kinma children from most other children is the high percentage of children who love reading. One need only visit Preschool or group 1,2 or 3 class during free reading time and watch the rapt attention, joy and interest. It's important to note that as one moves through a mainstream school, the percentage of children who choose to read for joy, typically falls dramatically. Many of us have examples from our own shared histories.

Most importantly, at Kinma, children are immersed in a culture of the love of reading as a joyous practice and one which can open doors to any learning for them. This drives the teaching of reading and staff are always aware that we want children to continue enjoying reading so that children will have it as a tremendous tool in their learning toolbox.

Experiencing story is the first step. Most children arrive to Kinma having had positive experiences of story; healthy dialogue in families developing rich vocabularies and curious minds, oral storytelling, picture books, some even have had longer stories read to them. All build the concept of narrative, which is the single most important predictor of a good reader.

This does not mean that children need nothing else.

Children learn to read by reading. Their reading is facilitated by being surrounded by print, having readers model reading such as watching family and teachers read. They need to interact with picture books and see the print as it is read to them. Gradually they will adopt the conventions of reading: looking at the cover, and turning the pages from right to left, reading along lines from left to right (in English), realising word-to-word correspondence and meaning attributed to print and pictures.

Early readers will often need help by way of explicit strategies. It is important to note that not all children require all of the below and a small percentage 10-20% of children arrive to Kinma already reading. Hence the programs are individualised.

Some suggestions to make to children are:

- to read the rest of the sentence to get the meaning and then substitute a word to make sense in the context;
- look at the length of the word;
- look at the first letter;
- if the child can see the word around the room;
- or remember it from past pages read . . . etc.

These are not intrinsic practices and need to be taught to most beginning readers.

Teachers introduce and play with phonemic awareness, which involves hearing the sounds in words. This together with the above ideas of story and the conventions of the culture of reading are key to learning reading. When a child has these three, a phonics program is used as a next key feature. However, it is worth mentioning that many children do not need a highly structured two year program covering all the 44 sounds of modern English, which are the stuff of synthetic phonics programs now touted as a basic necessity for all children.

Those children, approximately 3-5% percent of the population, who are challenged by unpacking the reading system, are assisted at Kinma with varying degrees of structured phonics and other support programs. Indeed synthetic phonics has a role with this cohort of children. Staff at Kinma watch for signs in the first two years of a child's Primary learning as regards proclivity for reading. Regular discussions among staff on a given class and as a whole school staff aid this.

Above all, we're thrilled that after 40 plus years of Kinma's existence, the vast majority of our children still love reading. We intend to do everything to keep it that way.

juli g
Education Co-ordinator

Bushlink



Our friends from Bushlink came yesterday and despite the rain and humidity, did a great job with our students of working on a different area of Primary land to where they've worked in the past. We then shared Snack Attack and a game of soccer finished it all off. The young gentlemen left with full tummies and big smiles as our children had also given them each a friendship band.

Violin Concert



Thanks to all our budding musicians and to Holly for the wonderful violin concert yesterday! If you missed it and would like to hear some of the beautiful music they played, check out our Facebook page for some video footage.

Preschool



We went on a bushwalk for our transition to primary activity. Parents came along with the preschool children and we went with Group One students, teachers and some parents. Once we



met with Andy and Kate and Group One we got ready to “mosie” on our bush walk.

We found out that mosie means to walk slowly and calmly.



A little way down the track some of the “Group One’ers” asked the “Preschooler’s” 3 questions to get to know each other. Some common questions were “What’s your name?” “What’s your favourite food?” “What’s your favourite colour?” (Lots of children like pizza!)

At our turn around point all the children sat down for a song about “My Grandma’s Feather Bed.” We mosied back and went our separate ways.

This was a casual way for the children and the parents to meet each other in “our” bush. We

noticed some differences between a Preschool bush walk and a Group One bush walk, the main one being that Group One carry their own water bottle. Some children had a great way to make this task fun and easy, hang the water bottles on a stick and carry it with a friend! It was a great way to build relationships with older and younger children and the adults as well.





Transition was exciting last Friday!!! First we popped into the library and joined “Group One Egg Plants” for French. The group played Christmas games during French time like finding the other half of the Christmas card in a matching game.

All the children then mosied on down to Group One and participated in an experiment. They were finding out how many children would it take to pop the balloons that were under an upsidedown table. Gradually people started standing on the table and they counted each child as they got on top.... It took 11 children before the balloon popped!

The transition group told the other preschool children about the experiment when they got back.



Having the opportunity to partake in a fun and exciting experiment helps to build positive memories of Group One as the children prepare to be part of a new class and environment. Being able to spend some time and get a sense of what life might be like when they start their new journeys next year is very empowering and helps with building levels of comfort. The children are also becoming more confident to speak in front of the group and to answer questions during story time. There are a few more transition sessions to help build up this familiarity and to assist with a smooth transition between groups.



Upcoming Dates for your Diary

- ❖ **Bushwalk** for transition children and their parents with group one on Thursday 7 Dec, meet on the basketball court at 9.30am
- ❖ **Children's Christmas Market** on Tuesday 5 December, come along and join in this community event at the primary school from 9am.
- ❖ **Gratitude Celebration** is where the whole Kinma Community come together for being grateful and celebrating the end of the year, Saturday 9 December in the school hall from 4 until 7pm. Supper is provided.
- ❖ **Party for Juli G** Monday 11 December, from 2 until 3pm down in Primary
- ❖ **End of Year Preschool Celebration** where we send off our leavers for 2017, all welcome to join. Wednesday 13 December 2.15pm at preschool.
- ❖ **Hanukkah Storytelling Session** Thursday 14 Dec, time to be confirmed .