

Term Dates 2020

Term 2: Wed 29 Apr – Fri 3 July
 Term 3: Wed 29 July – Fri 25 Sep
 Term 4: Tues 13 Oct – Wed 16 Dec

2020

Term 2		
Mon 18 May		Return to Preschool and Primary continues
Tues 26 May	9.30am	Education Committee Meeting
Mon 8 June		Public Holiday
Fri 3 July		End Term 2



Heard at Kinma this week

"IN TIME FOR
 GROUP TWO!!!
 Ohhh, that felt good.
 I've been wanting to say
 that for ages!"

*Olive, at the end
 of lunchtime*

"It feels new!"
 Eva G explained to her mum
 before coming back to
 Preschool that her whole body
 was excited, except for one
 eyebrow hair, that one was
 nervous.

"Ahhh, back in my
 natural habitat!"

*Mia Mo, on arriving
 back to school and
 putting her bag on a
 hook*

Kinma Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for Kinma Limited was held on Monday 11th May, 2020. Maybe, the fastest AGM that Kinma has been part of. The meeting was held via Zoom call and a quorum was present at the commencement of the meeting.

The Chair explained the business to be undertaken:

- 1.1. To receive and consider the accounts for the year ended December 2019.
- 1.2. To allow for brief reports from Board members with respect to portfolios.
- 1.3. To allow members of the school the opportunity under section 250S of the Corporations Act to ask questions or make comments on the management of the Company.
- 1.4. To elect Directors to the Board.

The Accounts

These have been prepared by our auditors Kirkby Jones. The accounts are unqualified. Keith spoke to the accounts for 2019. There were no additional questions raised regarding the 2019 accounts.

Chair Report

A copy of the Chair's report for 2019 is attached for information.

Other reports are available at the office.

Election

Three positions on the Board are vacated effective upon the conclusion of this meeting:

- Steve Dixon, (Parent Director)
- Lesley Milbourne (Parent Director)
- Amy Webster (Parent Director)
- Existing vacant Parent Director

That leaves four parent vacancies. We have received nominations from four candidates to fill positions.

- Steve Dixon
- Amy Webster
- Lesley Milbourne
- Helena Mooney

As there are equal candidates to vacant positions, I declare the above candidates as Directors of Kinma Limited for 2020/2021 year.

Congratulations to the 2020/21 Kinma Limited Board.

Special mention was made of the School's great appreciation for the support that Ginny Neighbour has given over the last few years as Chair and also over the last 15 years as a member of Kinma community. Ginny stepped down as Chair and has agreed to continue as a community member of the next couple of months due to the additional workload created by COVID-19.

Chair's Report – Kinma AGM

While this report is about the school year, 2019, I cannot ignore the recent changes brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. When we commenced Term 1, 2020, with joy in our hearts, and a school full of excited and happy students, we had no idea that only weeks later we would be offering online learning packages and encouraging students to stay away from school and preschool. The challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic are amongst the most difficult the school has ever encountered. None of us will come through them unchanged, but we do hope that the worst will soon be behind us and we will be welcoming our much-missed students back to the school.

I have always loved Kinma, from my very first visit as a prospective parent 20 years ago. Never have I been more impressed with this school than I am now, seeing how everyone - Board members, teachers, office staff, students and families - has stepped up to help the school. I want in particular to acknowledge Keith Mason, who investigated and set up an online learning and communication platform over a period of about two weeks for students, teachers, and parents. And what can I say about the teachers, under Michelle Walker's steady guidance? They embraced the online platform and in the twinkle of an eye had developed take-home classroom packs so that our students could continue learning and communicating with each other and their teachers in their home "classrooms". Up at the preschool, Kay continued to work her magic, filling all her charges with her love of freedom and growth. Words do not do justice to the office staff, under Julie Carr's inspirational and big-hearted leadership. They have become experts in legal and policy frameworks that didn't exist a month ago and have broken all records in keeping both staff and the community informed and supported. It's hard to single people out, as everyone has been spectacular.

The reporting year, 2019, was by contrast, largely business as usual. I am happy to say there were no great events to record. We had a lovely full primary, with around 95 students in four classes. Yes, last year we added an additional class group to Kinma - kindergarten, known in Kinma as Group 4. Yes, the children chose the name! We had a growing preschool, and a playgroup that was going from strength to strength. The school supported a new after-school care service called Green Umbrella that was set up by a group of Kinma parents. We had minimal staffing changes during the year: we welcomed back Tom Brien, who had been a student teacher with us in 2018; and a former teacher, Kimberley Read, returned to us after an absence of two years. But we were very sad to see our Education Leader, Fran McCarthy, leave to follow other paths. She had been happy at Kinma, but new challenges were calling to her.

We did all the usual things well: a wonderful Yurt Farm excursion; inspiring performances by our students; and a top-notch Trivia Night that raised the funds we needed to totally overhaul the primary kitchen. Everyone loves the new kitchen.

We managed our finances well and paid back some more of the loan we had taken out to build the preschool many years ago. We upgraded our educational database so we could record more information centrally, rather than duplicate bits of it in multiple systems. We enhanced our risk matrix, with very professional guidance from Lesley Milbourne, who has returned to her position on the Board after a short absence.

I step down now after two years as Chair of Kinma Board. I will remain as a community board member for a while longer, while we go through this pandemic. But this is my final Chair's report. I want to thank all the Board members I have served with and cannot sign off without a big thank you to all the staff, and a special note to Claire, who has always been there, gentle and strong, when I have needed anything at all.

And finally, I say, live long and prosper.

Ginny Neighbour

Admin

Hats

Hats, hats and more hats. Please ensure your children have a hat in their bags with their name on it. Or if they are old enough, we ask that you remind them it is their responsibility to bring one.



Water bottles

The Primary kitchen is currently closed so we ask that all children please bring a full water bottle.

Shoes and socks - it's getting cold!



Please ensure your children bring shoes and socks in their bag as it's getting quite chilly up here in Terrey Hills.

Labels on personal belongings

Please label all your child's belongings – as the mornings are cool and the days warm up, layers are being removed and the lost property clothing pile is growing!

Collection for Kids Packs

Mrs Mac is a charitable group who provide help for families on the Central Coast and they aim to have little packs for kids when their mums come in for help at their shelter.

We're gathering some snack items to make up these kids packs – poppers, chips, snacks etc., if you'd like to contribute to our collection please send in items with your child/ren next week.

Thank you!

Julie, Claire, Carin and Narelle

Preschool

Preschool is feeling more alive now that most of the children have returned, the most important element! The children have been connecting with friends as though time has not lapsed.

Outdoor Play and Dramatic Play

The outdoor kitchen area turned into a “fairy café” where Camila and Eva G prepared food for the fairy (Karthi) and other hungry creatures such as monkeys who visited the busy café.

The sandpit has been heavily used. Bodhi, Nina, Gretel, Rory, Daniel and Kruze were digging deep holes to China. Finn played tick tack toe and a construction site was set up with hard hats and safety cones. Rory, Daniel and Kruze made an obstacle course with a tyre that had lava inside.

Writing Books

Eva G brought a few drawings to preschool. After drawing the title page she asked for help with binding the pictures together and scribing the words. Finn, Amelie and Issy were inspired by Eva and requested to make their own books.



Mandarin Harvest

Gretel and Nina asked Christine if it was ok to pick mandarins from the tree. After checking with Felicity and Pat it was agreed to pick one mandarin each. Daniel, Rory, Gretel, Nina and Eva G washed their hands before collecting and eating the juicy fruit. The children are collecting the mandarin peels which will be soaked in vinegar. The mixture can be used for cleaning and it repels cockroaches too. Issy and Juliette observed the children eating and asked if they could collect a fruit too.

Juliette showed Finn where the tree is in the garden.

Finn said: I am a super big fan of mandarins.

Tadpoles and Chickens

We have been observing the tadpoles and looking for their legs. There have been discussions about the life cycle of a frog and a mosquito. The children are looking forward to the chickens returning. Juliette said "What is Kay doing with the eggs?"

*Dear parents, please make sure you **pack a hat for your child** to wear at preschool. Thank you to the children and parents for adjusting to the new way off dropping off and picking up. We appreciate your patience and help.*

Have a lovely week and stay safe

Lots of love

Kay, Karthi, Lizzie, Pat, Felicity and Christine

Group 4

~ Welcome home ~

It has been a beautiful and heart-warming experience, welcoming our Group 4 friends back to their Kinma home! We were so delighted and proud to see each child arrive confidently with big smiles and anticipatory excitement.

The first two days back at school have been a time to reconnect and reacquaint ourselves with each other and our lovely Kinma environment.

"Sometimes when you're away for a while, you forget some things like this outdoor play stuff. Don't worry, I still know it though!"

- George.

Tom and Sal

Group 1

Back in action!

We are so happy to have the children back and from the looks of it, they are happy to be back. We are busy learning all about the planets in our solar system and the children are full of information about black holes, stars, comets and meteorites. Here they are ordering the planets from the sun with a little help from Josh who taught us the acronym 'My very educated Mother served us noodles'. Of course when Pluto was around it was 'My very eagle Mother served us nine pizzas'.....I miss Pluto.

We explored an old path that led us further down the creek to an extremely beautiful billabong.



We have been measuring the perimeter of many things in classroom. Here is R comparing his feet with Andy's.

Stay tuned for more space-tastic fun!



our



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As part of the Green Umbrella OSHC program we include intentional experiences that are engaging and develop understanding, responding to diversity with respect and curiosity. One of the ways in which this can be achieved is by identifying special days including those of a multicultural perspective.

In acknowledgement of Japanese Children's Day, where children are respected and honoured for their individual strengths, and happiness is wished upon them we included some activities both spontaneous and as part of the program. This included Koinobori, carp-shaped streamers, which are flown outside on poles of public and private buildings to bring good luck and fortune to the children inside.



Additionally, we also offered a traditional tasting platter offered to children in Japan on this auspicious day. In recent years, the Japanese started to prepare children's favourite foods and include more colourful dishes for the celebration. These included Karaage (Japanese chicken), **Ebi Fry (Japanese Shrimp)** and **an inclusion of our own Lotus chips, made from lotus flower root**. **It was encouraging to see the children try something new and learn about a different culture at the same time. This experience also generated conversations about what other cultures we'd like to learn about.**



If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.