



WHAT'S ON AT KINDY

Mon 9 December
Last day for Green Group

Tuesday 10 December
Last day for Purple Group

Wednesday 11 December
Playgroup Break-up
9.15 - 11am

Thursday 12 December
Last day for Blue and Red
Groups

Kindy resumes 28 January
2020.

FROM THE DIRECTOR....

I would like to thank each and every family for sharing their wonderful children with us this year at Kenmore Park. We have loved getting to know each and every child, watching them as they grow and learn about the world around them. We have laughed with them, shared special moments, helped them as they learnt and watched as they achieved great things at Kindy. I know all the teachers would join me in saying that it has been an absolute privilege and we will miss them all so very much!

Thankyou also to all our hard working families who have been part of our Kindy for the last year or two. You have turned up at working Bees, Discos, Fathers' and Mothers' Day events, Rainbow Rummage, Christmas concerts, helped at Bush Kindy and helped out in so many ways. You have shown your children that you value what is important to them. You are part of what makes our Community Kindergarten so special.

We wish your family and children all the best as you start the journey to school or return to us next year.

Warm regards,

Joanne, Moira, Lei, Bec, Deb, Emma, Fiona, Louise, Caroline and Kerry.

OUR PROGRAM

Fiona Guthrie, Educational Leader and Teacher (Red Group)

Prep Readiness

We all can't believe that the year is nearly over and sadly we will say goodbye to many families starting their prep and school journey. On behalf of all the staff of Kenmore Park Kindergarten we would like to wish these families all the best in their transition to school and do hope that you will visit or share with us your child's development in 2020 and beyond 😊

Our family/parents evening earlier this term talked about what it is that "prepares children for prep". What was important to remember from this talk was that "prep readiness" starts well before even starting Kindergarten. Creating a love of learning, developing those sparks of joy, building strong muscles, an awareness and a love of language and stories and involved parenting all creates this "readiness".

In our Kindergarten programs we work in helping or fostering confidence, independence, resilience and social development all the while working on numbers, letters and sounds as well as gross motor and fine motor skills. It is important to remember that school readiness isn't all about being able to read, write, know colours or count. What is needed to thrive in school and enjoy the challenges (rather than merely coping), is about emotional and social maturity. This cannot be fast tracked!!

1. Can they make an independent decision and follow through on this?
2. Do they have ideas of their own?
3. Can they follow 2 or 3 instructions at the same time?
4. Can they move onto a new activity easily?
5. Do they separate well from their significant carer?
6. Can they recognise and express their feelings and needs?
7. Can they concentrate on a task they may not be so interested in?
8. How do they deal with frustration?

How you can help

All children have different interests, needs and motivations and each child's transition from kindy to Prep will be unique. You can help your child to feel more comfortable about the change from Kindergarten to prep by being relaxed, always talking positively about school, praise your child about their independence skills as well as when they are organized, and have listened to and followed your instructions.

Build your child's confidence

Help to build your child's skills to cope in various situations and increase their self-confidence by:

- finding answers to their questions or concerns together.
- talking to your child about how to ask for help and model what to say.
- talking through some "what will I do if...?" situations with your child, for example "what will I do if my yoghurt spills?"

Strengthen your child's independence

Before your child starts school, you can encourage independence by helping your child to practise:

- packing and carrying their own school bag
- putting on their shoes
- eating and drinking without help
- going to the toilet on their own
- using tissues to blow their nose
- recognising their belongings.

Daily routines

Daily routines can help children understand what they need to do, when to do it each day and why it's important. To help prepare your child for the lead up to starting school, encourage a simple and familiar routine which includes:

- going to bed early· waking up at a certain time and leaving plenty of time to get ready
- having a healthy breakfast which is needed for energy and concentration
- preparing and eating lunch
- making time for physical activities.

Packing a healthy lunch

When packing your child's lunch, include them in making choices and helping you provide healthy and filling food in realistic quantities for morning tea and lunch. Make sure they can easily open wrapped items and their lunch box. Have a picnic together and observe whether they can open everything you have packed for themselves. Provide a variety of smaller items instead of 1 or 2 large items. Provide a water bottle every day and encourage your child to drink it.

Know your school

Help your child get to know the school environment and routine by:

- driving past and walking around the school, especially during school hours, so that your child gets used to the number of children, and their movements within the school grounds. Make sure you let school staff in the office know if you are walking around inside the school grounds.

...CONTINUED...

- asking the school what equipment and materials your child needs, like a school bag, library bag or hat. Most schools will provide a list. Make sure all possessions are labelled with your child's name.

Before their first day, your child should know how to easily find their classroom and where to:

- put their things, like school bag and hat
- have their lunch breaks
- where the bathrooms are
- where to meet you at the end of the day

Get involved with your school

Help your child get a great start to their education. Take an interest in their schooling, be positive about it, and let them know it's important to attend. Help your new Prep teacher get to know your child. Provide your child's kindergarten transition statement and talk to the teacher about:

- your child's interests
- how your child learns
- your goals for your child.

Get involved with their school by:

- meeting the teacher· attending school events with your child, such as transition programs and open day events
- informing the teacher of any changes affecting your child
- talking to other parents or helping in the tuckshop· reading school newsletters and bulletin boards
- attending school events like parent association meetings, fetes, open days or sporting carnivals.

Family activities at home

You can also help your child's progress at school by doing family activities including:

- reading aloud (this develops concentration and awareness of language patterns) and writing with them (e.g. shopping lists and letters)
- stimulating their imagination and natural curiosity (e.g. visiting the museum, parks, bushwalking)
- playing sports, card or board games help develop mathematical, problem solving, language and social skills
- shopping, walking or gardening together
- singing songs and nursery rhymes together.

We wish all families a happy and positive start to prep next year! We know that we will miss you all very much xx



SUSTAINABILITY CORNER

Emma Harding - Pre-Kindy and Kindy Assistant

The groups here at Kenmore Park Kindy have been working hard on our vegetable gardens. We currently have tomatoes ripening, strawberries, spring onions, basil and corn cobs growing. Each group helps to water and measure how much the veggies have grown each week. Red group especially, has been looking at how corn cobs grow and watching the native bees as they visit to pollinate.

We have been very fortunate in obtaining a Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant for the construction of a Rainbow Garden in both unit one and two. We would love your suggestions for our garden, what would you like to see growing?

PLAYGROUP NEWS

Playgroup has had a wonderful year thanks to our Leader, Louise Hunter and coordinator, Bree Thompson. Families will be pleased to hear that Miss Louise will continue in this role next year. Sadly, Bree will not be able to continue next year as coordinator. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bree for all her hard work in establishing this group and ensuring that it runs smoothly week after week. If you are interested in taking on this role next year, please email Bree at playgroup@kenmorepark.com.au

Our Playgroup Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday 11 December from 9.15 - 11am. There will be special activities for the children and a visit from Santa! Families are asked to bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea.

Playgroup will resume in Term 1, 2020 on Wednesday 29th January. Keep an eye on our facebook page for more information.

www.facebook.com/kenmoreparkplaygroup

FROM THE COMMITTEE

Catherine Robertson, President.

It is hard to believe that Term 4 is just about finished! What an amazing year we have had at Kenmore Park Kindy.

Our "Rainbow Rummage" celebration was a great success, despite the rain. It was wonderful to see so many families there enjoying the bargain hunting as well as the fantastic children's entertainment. Many thanks to those who volunteered on the day and those who helped organise the event. A special thank you to Grants Officer, Bree Thompson, who was successful in obtaining a grant to fund the children's entertainment.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our Committee and Staff members this year. They have worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of our Kindergarten. Our Director, Joanne White, and Educational Leader, Fiona Guthrie, have ensured that our children have received the highest quality of education and care throughout their time at Kenmore Park.

It is with sadness that we farewell Bec Monteith. Green Group (Pre-Kindy) has had a fantastic year under her leadership and we wish her all the best as she takes up a teaching position at her children's school next year. We are fortunate to have Emma Harding, who has worked as an Assistant in Green Group this year, take on the role of Lead Educator in Green Group in 2020. Emma is also a qualified teacher and has many years of experience in the 3-4 age group. Emma will be ably supported by our expert Assistant, Deb Donnelly.

We are pleased to announce that our Pre-Kindy program continues to grow and we will also be opening Blue Group in Term 1, 2020. The delightful Louise Hunter will be returning to Kenmore Park to take on the role of Lead Educator for this group.

Kenmore Park Kindy still has vacancies in both our Pre-Kindy and Kindy programs for 2020. If you know of any little ones who are due to start Pre-Kindy or Kindy next year and are still looking for a place in a Community Kindergarten, please recommend Kenmore Park to them.

A big thank you to parents who have taken the time to complete the QIP survey (at sign-in) and our emailed survey. We value the contributions our families make in supporting Kenmore Park. The feedback you provide helps to inform decisions in relation to future practices and processes at Kenmore Park.

I hope you all enjoy the Christmas break and I look forward to welcoming new and returning families to Kenmore Park in 2020.

Google Review

Google Review is a powerful tool to promote our Kindy. If you could please find few minutes to leave a Google Review for Kenmore Park Kindy, it would be greatly appreciated. Go to the following link for instructions on how to do this:

<https://support.google.com/maps/answer/6230175?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>

Facebook reviews would also be welcomed! Please email info@kenmorepark.com.au with your review and we can use it on our Facebook page or website!

Fundraising Goal Reached!

YOU DID IT! I DID IT! WE ALL DID IT!

The Committee is thrilled to announce that we hit our fundraising target and were able to purchase our fundraising goal- the Edutouch Interactive Whiteboard!

Green and Red groups might have noticed it lurking in the back of their classroom already. The teachers will shortly undertake training and have it up and running for use by all groups for the rest of the term.

Interactive whiteboards, or 'smart boards', have been identified as enriching the student experience, improving engagement with students, and helping special needs children among other benefits. They are also commonly used in classrooms now, so it will also help to improve prep readiness. They are a lot of fun too :-)
It will be a fantastic resource for the Kindy.

This could not have been possible without the hard work, support and generosity of our families, the staff, the committee, and the wider community. It just goes to show what can be achieved when we work together!



OUR CHRISTMAS GIVING PROGRAMS....

At Kenmore Park we believe in teaching children the value of giving to others and being part of an active Community. Every year at Christmas time the Children at Kenmore Park decide on ways they would like to give back to their community. This year..

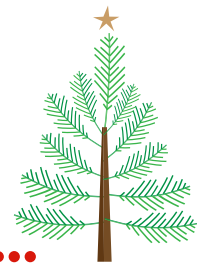
PURPLE GROUP is collecting used toys from each family to give to Kenmore Uniting Church who will pass them on to families from a local Women's shelter.

RED GROUP is supporting the "Mum on a Mission Water Drive". Red Group families have donated items and made Christmas cards to support struggling families in Stanthorpe and surrounding areas.

GREEN GROUP is making Christmas cards to distribute to local aged care homes.

BLUE GROUP chose to support the fire fighters and those affected by fires this year. They collected food and drinks and some of the children also sent in drawings / paintings. This has already been delivered.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY IDEAS...



(things to keep you sane over the Christmas break)

- Have a picnic in your back yard
- Chalk drawing on the concrete driveway, then erasing it with a squirt bottle of water (great for developing fine motor strength)
- Put the sprinkler on
- Paint the fence, house or driveway with a paint brush & a bucket of plain water. Encourage your child to write their names and other words with the paint brush.
- Painting- see Joanne's recipe for home-made paint below
- Playdough gardens with natural sticks, twigs with leaves, seed pod, rocks and gum nuts. See Joanne's recipe for home-made playdough below

Home-made Paint

Ingredients:

Corn flour, food colouring, water

Method:

*Blend 1 tbl spoon of corn flour with cold water until it is the consistency of melted ice-cream.

*Boil 1 cup of water, then add to the corn flour mixture quickly (Stirring at the same time). Add food colouring. Use when *cool*.

*For a more pastel colour, when the mixture is cool add some cornflour dissolved in cold water. It acts like white paint and creates pastels.

Playdough recipe

Ingredients:

2 cups of plain flour

1 cup of salt

2 tbl spoons of cream of tartar

2 tbl spoons vegetable oil

2 cups of VERY HOT boiling water

Method:

Combine all dry ingredients and vegetable oil. Stir together. Add the boiling water quickly and stir to combine as quickly as possible (mixture will look to wet at this stage). Add food colouring/essential oils/glitter if *desired*. Wear 2 pairs of gloves and kneed on a flat surface until smooth (5 minutes).

When cool if it is still to sticky or dry when cool, add flour or water. Store in a plastic bag/airtight container & keep in the fridge when not in use.



COMMUNITY EVENTS



The Enchanted Garden

29 Nov -13 December -
Roma Street Parkland.
Free

This Christmas, journey through The Enchanted Garden at Roma Street Parkland and experience one of Brisbane's largest lighting displays.

IPSWICH
**SWITCH
BRICKS**
School Holiday workshops

**JANUARY
20th-23rd
2020**

✓ Fun
✓ Great Value
✓ Entertaining

TICKETS
\$5 1-3YRS
\$10 4-12YRS

Switch Bricks is a pop up play space in Ipswich, built with LEGO loving kids in mind. There are so many different kinds of building activities on offer in every 3 hour session.
4 days only during this school holidays—BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

POP UP VENUE: @ www.switchbricks.com

An interesting read...

<https://www.maggiedent.com/blog/fragile-boys-friendships-and-why-they-matter-so-much/>



Healthy Red Velvet Christmas Cookies

INGREDIENTS

1/4 cup (50g) rapadura sugar (or brown sugar)
1 cup (250g) natural peanut butter
1 egg
2 teaspoons vanilla bean paste (or extract)
1/2 cup (60g) cacao powder
3/4 cup (130g) medjool dates, pitted
1/2 cup (125g) pure maple syrup
1 cup (90g) rolled oats
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon red food colouring, or 1 tablespoon beetroot juice
1/3 cup (50g) white chocolate
2 tablespoons red coloured sugar OPTIONAL - to make your own place 2 tablespoons of sugar and 3-4 drops of red food colouring in a small bowl and mix thoroughly to combine.

METHOD

Preheat oven to 170 C and line a cookie sheet with paper. Set aside.
Place sugar, peanut butter, egg, vanilla bean paste, cacao, dates, maple syrup, oats and red food colouring (or beetroot juice) into the large bowl of a food processor and blitz until smooth.
Take heaped tablespoon amounts of the dough and shape into balls. Evenly space the cookies onto the prepared tray. Bake for 15 minutes or until slightly golden and cracked. Allow to cool for 5 minutes or so before placing on a wire rack to cool completely.
Place the white chocolate into a microwave proof bowl and heat on high heat, in 15 second intervals (stirring in between) until the chocolate is melted. Drizzle teaspoon amounts of the melted chocolate over the cookies (and allow to drizzle down the sides a little) and top with a sprinkle of coloured sugar.
Enjoy x

mylovelylittlelunchbox.com

SAFETY - Remember to always supervise kids in the kitchen.

THE CHILDREN'S REFLECTION ON THEIR YEAR AT KENMORE PARK KINDERGARTEN...

Feeling valued, plays a large role in how a child learns and enables them to play and explore, actively learn and critically think. They need to feel confident in their environment and have the knowledge that their voice and ways of exploring will be cherished and treated with respect. We do this every day by listening to our children, providing opportunities for child led planning, through daily reflections, encouraging children's sense of agency and actively listening to their interests and ideas.

At the end of the year it is always nice to reflect back on the year that was and discuss the children's experiences. As we value their voices so highly we prompted the children to reflect on their own learning and what they have loved about Kindy throughout 2019. Here are the responses of each and every wonderful and unique child at Kenmore Park.

THE CHILDREN'S VOICES FROM PURPLE GROUP

Aari - "I like playing with the big blocks at Kindy"

Amy - "I like playing water"

Charli - "I like playing in the cubby house down stairs"

David - "I like playing with Oliver S and Grace"

Grace - "Playin' outside and inside."

Harry - "I made lots of friends, actually everyone here"

Hugo - "I like playing with Harry and Oscar. We build things"

Joshua - "Digging in the sandpit. I always dig in the sandpit."

Keshav - "Because it's fun"

Lisa - "Playing in home corner"

THE CHILDREN'S VOICES from Blue Group

Remi - I like playing with Peter

Minori - I like everything

Peter - I like playing with cars

Oscar - I see birds at kindy

Bethany - because the kindy is beautiful and I like it.

Nic - playing and going in the house and going in the jelly fish

Eli - playing with toys

Lily - playing in home corner

Artie - playing a game (MR Wolf)

Josh - playing dressing up

Quinn - playing on the swing (hammock)

Charlotte - the cubby house

Sophia - playing in the cubby house

Kai - the animals

Elbie - playing in the water trough

CONTINUED...

THE CHILDREN'S REFLECTION ON THEIR YEAR AT KENMORE PARK KINDERGARTEN...

THE CHILDREN'S VOICES FROM PURPLE GROUP

CONTINUED...

Max- "I like playing with Oli"

Oscar- "Playing outside with Keshav. That's my favourite."

Olivia- I like playing with Charli and Lisa."

Oliver R- "I play with dinosaur stuff"

Oliver S- "I like building with the big blocks." (timber)

Oliver T- "I like the magnetic blocks."

Fateh- "I like to dig in the sandpit."

THE CHILDREN'S VOICES FROM BLUE GROUP continued...

Jack - Kindy is fun and I like it! I like the pipes and the cars.

Owen - I love kindy and sitting in the mud.

Hugo - playing with the cars

THE CHILDREN'S VOICES FROM RED GROUP

Ruby - Jumping like a star on the wobbly plank.

Max - Going on the swing.

Oliver - Playing dinosaurs with Max

Kyra - The painting, when you paint something you want.

Liam - Making a big creek with the hose.

Maeve - Playing with sand, making chocolate cakes.

Jessica - Making ginormous sand castles.

Alice - Playdough!

Scarlett - Play

Michael - Swings because i can go up super high.

Nathan - play blocks with Harrison and playing outside.

Aiyah - Painting and swinging, painting dots and trees.

Orion - Going in the sandpit, digging.

Harrison J - Walking to the school, the tuckshop was there.

Corey - Playing and painting my family and sun and rainbow.

Annabel - Bush kindy and making cakes.

Harrison M - Play with Harrison and dig for dinosaur bones.

Lyla - Art, sparkles.

Neel - Play go fish and cards.

Ava - Clay and painting clay.

Nami - the cubby house

Riyan - I like Kindy

CONTINUED...

THE CHILDREN'S REFLECTION ON THEIR YEAR AT KENMORE PARK KINDERGARTEN...

THE CHILDREN'S VOICES FROM GREEN GROUP

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT KINDY.

Spencer - "Oh just singing songs and playing with the tigers and Bella and Hugh and butterflies too".

Matthew - Nodded his head when asked if he loved puzzles the most at Kindy.
(shook his head when asked if mat time was his favourite thing about Kindy)

Emilia - "Dot and camping".

Conor - "Just playing with the phones and games as well and building things with blocks".

Dan - " My friends and running too and water and stones".

Dot - " mmmmm friends and drawing and cuddles".

Bella - " Singing the song, may we sing it now? (Jingle Bells) and playing with the tigers and the boys".

Luca - "Just playing in the sand pit and the water and the running and silly games".

Nic - " Playdough, playdough, playdough and playing with the mummy lions".

Owen - " ummm ummmm I just like making decorations and cards and playing like this".
(home corner with Sam and Tom).

Tom - "Running over the big bridge, that one there and running back again and making bracelets for Mummy".

Sam - " Playing baby games right here (home corner and laying on the doll's bed) and playing with Tommy".

Xavier - " ah actually um Christmas ummmm and all that playing we can do and singing and funny things and just everything".

Ella - " I love all the colours and the craft and really all the beads".

Henri - " Games and making my dinosaur (playdough) but they aren't shiny (glitter) and I know that and they aren't pink".

Travis - " Well I like making things that are orange and green and drawing and playing with Henri".

Grace - " Well I actually just like everything and I especially like my cupcakes Mummy made me when it is a birthday here. You know I can't eat all that other cake".

Reuben - " Every day is kindy day. Music and playing in the sand pit and getting really wet but not really sandy. I don't really like that".

Hugh - " Bella and Spencer are my friends. I like Luca too and everyone I just like. It is fun and I like a toy to play with at rest time".

Dylan - " Playing with games and toys and drawing and sticking things together".

Kenmore Park Kindergarten 2020 Programs

Pre-Kindy:

Green Group

Monday/Tuesday 9.15am - 2.15pm

Lead Educator - Emma Harding emma@kenmorepark.com.au

Educators - Debra Donnelly and Caroline Gilbert

Blue Group

Thursday/Friday 9.15am - 2.15pm

Lead Educator - Louise Hunter louise@kenmorepark.com.au

Educator - to be advised

Kindergarten:

Purple Group

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday 9.00am - 2.15pm

Teacher - Joanne White joanne@kenmorepark.com.au

Educators - Moira Dorward and Lei Yan

Red Group

Thursday/Friday 8.15am - 4.00pm

Teacher - Fiona Guthrie fiona@kenmorepark.com.au

Educator - Emma Harding

The Kindergarten will be closed from Monday 16 December until Tuesday 28 January 2020. During this time, our email (info@kenmorepark.com.au) and phone messages (3378 4469) will be monitored.

