



KINGSCLIFF MINI SCHOOL  
*Community Preschool*

# NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020



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## Thank you to our community

Welcome to the KMS Newsletter. Firstly, I would like to give a huge vote of thanks to the KMS community for working with us during these unprecedented times. The reality of COVID-19 has been a real test for us in navigating the sometimes-complex rules and regulations, and keeping up with the ever-changing government and social expectations.

I am proud to say that we made it through okay and could not have done this without the patience and support of our families. Also, a big shout out to our beautiful Educators, the additional effort that they have put in has been extraordinary! Thank you everyone!

Warm regards, Lindy and the KMS team.



# Reconciliation Week

## 27 May - 3 June 2020

Jingi Wala Everyone!

With this year's Reconciliation Week theme being 'In this together', our children have embraced our welcome to country, learning new songs in connection to our land, understanding indigenous ways of living, art and many other experiences.

A highlight was cooking roasted apple with cinnamon and damper on the open fire in a yarning circle listening and speaking from our heart. Nurturing, respect and connection to the natural world through music and song.



Both groups were a part of creating an 'In this together' sign with all our hand prints for reconciliation week. All having a hand in closing the gap.

A Reconciliation Action Plan is being established by a working group of educators Kylie, Kasie and Lindy and parents Lauren, Alex and Kate. We are also interested in finding community members to be a part of this group. Please let us know if you know of anyone who may be interested in helping out. We welcome any assistance, advice or ideas from all our families as we work towards creating our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Oh Mother Nature  
Earth, Wind, Fire and Sea  
You are all around us  
And all around me.

## Welcome to our Committee for 2020

**President:** Kate Waetford

**Vice President:** Elena Cuthbert

**Secretary:** Catherine Barwick

**Treasurer:** Amy Arnell

**General Committee:**

**Assistant Secretary:** Jodi Smith

**Newsletter Editor:** Nicole Westerweller

**Library Assistant:** Lauren Plunkett

**General Committee Member/s:** Peter Northcott and Russ Murphy



# Growing Coastal is back in Term 3



The staff and children are really excited for Growing Coastal to resume next term. As restrictions have eased, we are now able to go out with 10 children and 2 educators but have made some adaptations to adhere to social distancing and increased our hygiene procedures.

The program runs Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's from 8:45am-12:45pm. We are almost full for Term 3 so please get in contact with us ASAP if you are interested in a spot for your child.

You can email us at [growingcoastal@gmail.com](mailto:growingcoastal@gmail.com)

Last term the children were interested in shelter building, tool use; sawing and hammering, storytelling and role play, searching for microplastics and enjoying many iced teas by the sea.

We worked with Dune Care and had Jen from Australian Seabird and Turtle Rescue visit and share her knowledge of microplastics and the impacts plastic have on our environment and sea life.

We are looking forward to returning next term to following up on, and extend the children's interests by introducing whittling knives, flint and fire through the use of our Kelly Kettle, as well as continuing shelter building, weeding and learning about the flora and fauna in our local sites.

Check out the new hallway display in the foyer of Mini School to see photos of the amazing things involved in the program.



## Term 3 & COVID-19

For now, given the physical distancing restrictions are still in place we will continue the drop off and pick up routine currently in place at Preschool.

We are asking families that do not need care until 3.30pm, to pick up between 2.30pm and 3pm to avoid unnecessary congestion between 3pm and 3.30pm.

No fee payment for Preschool as part of the government's COVID-19 assistance package remains in place for Term 3. This means we will begin charging fees again at the commencement of Term 4.

Thank you to everyone for your support navigating through the restrictions with such grace and kindness on behalf of the KMS Team. We really appreciate it.

Lindy

# Thank you for your donations

Our sincerest thank you to all of you who made donations during this Term. We are so grateful!

Hutchinson Builders have donated white goods for the new building plus replaced an existing washing machine in the current class room. This has been organised by the Plunkett family.

You can continue to help by donating items such as:

- Boxes of Tissues
- Packs of Toilet Paper
- Chux Kitchen/Bathroom Wipes (dish cloths)
- Packets of Garbage Bags
- Plain Flour, Corn flour, Salt, Oil, Cream of Tartar (Playdough Ingredients)

Every little bit helps to reduce our running costs.

Additional ideas can be found by clicking on the links sent out in previous emails or ask Lindy if you are unsure.



## Term 2 in review

Here at Mini School we have a strong emphasis on the emotional health and wellbeing of our children, with a connection to land and environment, all embedded throughout our daily program.

Our program is child-led with Educators following and extending the children's interests.

A typical day at Mini School this term included: music & movement, Fit-for-Life, art and creativity, drama, fire evacuations and safety, worms and composting, watching our tadpoles turn into frogs (before they hopped away and disappeared) and caring for Denis and Spike, our resident lizards, ninja lines, rope swings and always..... many, many stories.

A shout out to our amazing Educators for their inspiring additions to our program. From mud-kitchens to nurturing our gardens, creating homes for the winter fairies, a focus on native animals to the value of recycling - it's been a very full and enjoyable term.



# Term 3 commencement

3 day group - Monday 20 July 2020

2 day group - Thursday 23 July 2020

## Building work update

We are excited to announce that work on the building extension is almost complete! Thanks to all involved. We are very hopeful for a start in 2021. Watch this space!

In addition, we have welcomed funding which has allowed us to add shade screens to the verandah area. This will make for a much cooler summer, protecting us from the strong afternoon sun and those rainy days.

The sealing of the verandah and new concrete path will be part of the building work to be completed in the next break in July.

## Annual Welcome BBQ

Unfortunately due to COVID-19 restrictions, we had to postpone our annual 'welcome BBQ'.

However as an alternative, if anyone would like to volunteer to coordinate some play dates outside of KMS this is has been a great way for families to connect and get to know each other outside of Mini School and beyond. In the past this has been very successful.

We are happy to email a note to families or you could use our pockets at the entrance to post a note.

