

ON this MONTH

At KPSOOSH

Service event/item -----

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DECEMBER 2022 KPSOOSH NEWSLETTER

Term 4 has come and gone. With the Summer Holidays just around the corner, we are looking forward to sharing our awesome Vacation Care Program. We can't wait to see you all Week 1, Term 1 2023 for more adventures and memory-making!

A big thank you to our KPSOOSH community members for being so understanding and supportive during all the new and exciting adventures we have undergone at our Service. We have lots of new faces around the centre, and our new staff members are super excited to get to know all our wonderful children and families here at Kensington. We also welcome our new students and community members to KPSOOSH, and we can't wait to share in the fun.



INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY - DECEMBER 18

Throughout human history, migration has been a courageous expression of the individual's will to overcome adversity and to live a better life.

Migration draws increasing attention in the world nowadays. Mixed with elements of un-foreseeability, emergency, and complexity, the challenges and difficulties of international migration require enhanced cooperation and collective action among countries and regions.

Find out more here

KMART WISHING TREE APPEAL - DECEMBER 1 - 24

Kmart and The Salvation Army are coming together to help support those doing it tough. Prior to the pandemic, more than 3 million Australians were living under the poverty line and The Salvation Army have seen a continual increase in need. That's why we encourage you to embrace the spirit of giving this year by supporting the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal. Find out more here.



2 tbs tapioca flour (or corn flour)

2/3 cup (170 ml) **store-bought strawberry jam**CRUMBLE LAYER

1 tbs poppy seeds, 1 tbs flax seeds, 1 tbs chia seeds METHOD

Preheat oven to 180 C (350 F) and line a square 20 cm x 20 cm tin with baking paper. Set aside.

TO MAKE THE BISCUIT BASE

Place the flour, oats, sugar, cinnamon and salt into a large bowl and mix to combine.

Add the butter, egg, honey and vanilla and stir thoroughly to combine. Set aside 1 cup of the mixture (for the crumble topping). Press the remaining mixture into an even layer in the bottom of the prepared tin. Set aside in the fridge.

TO MAKE THE STRAWBERRY LAYER

Place the strawberries, sugar and tapioca into a large bowl and gently mix to combine.

Retrieve the base from the fridge. **Cover** the base with an even layer of strawberry jam, top with prepared strawberries. **TO MAKE THE CRUMBLE TOPPING**

To the reserved crumble, add the poppy seeds, flax seeds and chia seeds and mix thoroughly to combine. Sprinkle the crumble topping over the strawberry layer. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until the jam is bubbling and the crumble topping is a deep golden brown. Allow the bars to cool completely before cutting into 9-12 bars. Enjoy x

Recipe and image from mylovelylittlelunchbox.com



STRAWBERRY BARS

PREP 15 min | COOK 35 min | SERVES 12

INGREDIENTS

BISCUIT BASE

- 1 1/2 cups (190 grams) plain whole meal flour
- 1 1/2 cups (135 grams) rolled (traditional) oats
- 1/2 cup (75 grams) brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon, ground
- 125 grams **butter**, melted and slightly cooled
- 1 egg, pinch salt
- 1 tbs honey
- 1 tsp vanilla bean paste (or extract)
- STRAWBERRY LAYER
- 2 cups (300 grams) fresh strawberries, hulled and chopped



Family get togethers mean time in the car, check out these family podcasts!





BRAINS ON | APM STUDIOS

Brains Onl is an award-winning audio show for kids and families. Each week, a different kid co-host joins Molly Bloom to find answers to fascinating questions about the world. THE mission is to encourage kids' natural curiosity and wonder using science and history...but there's no age limit on curiosity and episodes of Brains On can be enjoyed by anyone.

SMASH BOOM BEST | APM STUDIOS

Smash Boom Best is a debate show for kids and families from the makers of the award-winning podcast, Brains On! Every episode takes two cool things, smashes them together and lets you decide which is best. Our debaters use facts and passion to make their case -- teaching listeners how to defend their own opinions along the way.

FOCUS: Make Your New Year's Resolutions a Family Affair

It's that time of year again, when many of us make New Year's resolutions that we have the best intentions of keeping. But despite our initial efforts, we often don't follow through. A lot of us fail because we either make unrealistic goals or we lack a support system that will help keep us honest. If you want to keep this year's resolutions, make a realistic goal. Your goal should be specific, measurable, and doable within a reasonable period of time. Being supported and held accountable by others will further help you reach your goal, so consider making resolutions as a family.

Families Who Make Goals Together Keep Goals Together

While making a family resolution may seem as sensible as herding cats, it's worth the effort. But setting family resolutions will only work if each member of the family feels invested. And for everyone to feel invested, shared goals need to be recognized and treated equally within the family. If everyone feels they have a stake, then you have created the foundation for achieving your shared goals. Making goals as a family has a distinct advantage over making a personal goal as an individual. For example, if you go running every day with a friend, you're more likely to continue making progress because you will feel supported. Making goals public to your family and working together to achieve them provides the outside encouragement we all need to keep resolutions.

Alone You Will Struggle; Together You Will Thrive

Many of our routines are built around work and family, but your autonomy and ability to make personal changes to your life can be undermined by your greater responsibilities. So if you want to exercise more or eat healthier, you are more likely to do so if your other family members exercise with you and eat the same things you do. But if you are the only one in your family that is actively working towards a goal, constantly removing yourself from your other family members' habits (e.g. eating a salad during family pizza night) will eventually erode your desire to keep your resolutions. You might stick with eating salads for a while, but that pepperoni pizza will be more tempting when everyone else is enjoying it but you. You shouldn't force your family to do what you're doing, especially if they don't want or need to, but you can easily find ways for you and your family to work together and achieve a common goal.

8 Resolutions That Are Easier Kept as a Family

Some habits are truly personal and require individual accountability, but many common resolutions can be adopted by the entire family with a little planning and coordination. Maybe you're the only one who needs to lose weight or create a better diet, but there are other ways to encourage your whole family to work together.

1. Eat Meals Together The best way to cultivate better eating habits and to introduce new or healthier foods to your diet is to eat together. If possible, you should eat breakfast and dinner together with your partner and children. Not only will you get to enjoy good food (especially if you cook together), but this is also a great way to create time for daily connection as a family. You can even coach your kids' sports teams as a way to be present and involved in their physical activities, and even if you can't, you can still go to their games and offer support by cheering them on.

To make this year the year you actually follow through with your goals, make it a family affair. This way, everyone wins. You can share the sense of accomplishment together, which not only helps in achieving your shared goals, but can bring you closer together as a family.

- 2. Go to Bed at the Same Time Getting enough sleep is important for every age group, children and adults alike. But for some families, bedtimes are considered a guideline and not a rule, and if they are a rule, they only apply to young children. This year, make a mandatory lights-out time for everyone, yourself included. You may need to collect and shut down electronic devices from kids to ensure everyone in the family goes to bed at the same time.
- **3.** Unplug Devices A great way to help everyone decompress from a stressful day and wind down toward bedtime is to create "unplugged" time, or time where electronic devices are shut off and everyone can read or relax in a way that doesn't include electronics. Most sleep experts recommend unplugging from electronics an hour or so before bed.
- **4. Create Reading Time** If your resolution is to read more often, make it a family routine to go to the library once a week. Saturday is a great day to visit the library for most families. Once everyone has books they want to read, create "electronics-free" spaces in your home and designate a time when everyone will read. You can even take it a step further: during meals or other times when your family is together, discuss what you're reading and share what you've learned.
- **5. Exercise as a Family** Everyone can enjoy the health benefits of exercise, which are almost endless. In addition to the obvious physical benefits, exercising also helps to lower stress and lift your mood. While bringing everyone to the gym may not be realistic for your family, going for walks together, playing catch, shooting hoops, or joining amateur sports teams or clubs can make it easier to cultivate appreciation for exercise in your family.
- **6. Work Toward a Financial Goal** As parents, you may feel it is inappropriate to talk about your finances with your children, especially if you have outstanding debt. But if you wish to help your children make good decisions about money, like smart spending habits and how to save, being open about family finances and creating financial goals as a family are surprisingly good ways to help prepare your children for adulthood.
- 7. Switch Out the Soda Your family doctor will thank you, and so will your wallet, if you stop stocking your home with your soda of choice. If you like carbonated drinks and the idea of going cold turkey seems unthinkable, try switching out your favourite soda with flavoured carbonated water instead. Not only will this prevent weight gain and overconsumption of sugar, but it will teach your kids to make healthier choices as well.
- **8. Go Meatless One Day a Week** Reduce your meat consumption and eat more vegetables by cooking meatless meals one day a week. Eating less red meat is good for your health and wallet, and eating less meat overall is good for the environment. The sooner you can do this, the better. Children who try different kinds of foods at a young age tend to be less picky and to expand their palates, and by maintaining healthy eating habits, eating vegetarian may become your family's favourite way of eating.

Source: The Gottman Institute (2022). Make Your New Year's Resolutions a Family Affair. *Retrieved from* https://www.gottman.com/blog/make-new-years-resolutions-family-affair/



HEALTH & SAFETY: 4 Simple ways to declutter your child's play space

Simplifying the toys in your home will cut clutter, reduce stress, and improve how your kids play. You know that feeling of overwhelm and inability to focus when you have too many browser tabs open? That's how our kids feel in the presence of too many toys. When kids play, their brains are hard at work growing and learning. But when their environment is overrun with clutter, their brains go into overdrive. They have the same trouble focusing. The same stress of not knowing what to do next, or what it is they're even looking for. They jump from toy to toy, distracted and overwhelmed, just like we alternate between tabs, apps, and devices. Think of the opposite scenario though. When you have a single device in front of you with just one or two tabs or applications open. You're better able to focus and get your work done, right? The same goes for our kids.

Open-Ended Toys vs. Closed-Ended Toys

Open-ended toys (or open toys): These are toys that promote physical, creative, and/or imaginative play. Closed-ended toys (also referred to as closed or fixed toys): These are toys that usually only have one function, and often are toys that can be completed or mastered.

How to declutter your toys

Step 1: Watch & reflect. Watch your kids play for a week. Make notes of which toys are played with most frequently and for the longest periods. Note the toys that are being ignored.

Step 2: Sort your toys. It helps to declutter toys by category. Having everything visible in one space makes it easier to pick out the favourites and ones that add value, but also see the excess. Gather all toys in a specific category in one room. If you



have a lot of toys or just want to break them up, tackle one category at a time.

Step 3: Declutter one category at a time. Now that your toys are sorted, it's time to purge!

Step 4: Organise & arrange. Toys that you are keeping and want your kids to play with should be easily accessible and visible. If we want kids to play with their toys, they need to be able to see and access them with ease.

Step 5: Get rid of your unwanted toys. The last step to decluttering your toys is to remove them from your home. I recommend doing this while you've got momentum — within a few days or so.

Decluttering is hard and it may take a few attempts. Read this article in full and enjoy the space it makes in yours and your children's mind.

Source: Modernminimalism (2022). How to declutter toys. Retrieved from https://modernminimalism.com/how-to-declutter-toys/

EATING BREAKFAST: Breakfast is often called 'the most important meal of the day', and for good reason. As the name suggests, breakfast breaks the overnight fasting period. It replenishes your supply of glucose to boost your energy levels and alertness, while also providing other essential nutrients required for good health. So, what can you do to help your child if they aren't quite into breakfast?

Set up a good routine — wake up a little earlier and slow the routine down. Try going for a walk before breakfast as this may help stimulate their appetite, switch off distractions and eat breakfast together. Get them involved — Let your children choose their own cereal while grocery shopping. Have your children help prep their own breakfast. Set a good example — Sit with your kids and eat breakfast at the same time. Eat food you wish your children to eat. Use positive reinforcement. Get creative — Make smoothies and experiment with new recipes. FIND OUT MORE HERE



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLING CHRISTMAS

This year don't buy wrapping paper or Christmas cards make your own or better yet use art already created.

Collect your kids drawings and paintings — After your child's art has spent its time on the fridge, tuck it away ready to be used as wrapping paper or as apart of a Christmas card. Family friends and family will love receiving gifts and cards created with love.

If you do have to buy cards or wrapping paper – Choose cards and paper not wrapped in plastic. Check that items you are buying are made of recycled materials. You could even try sending e-cards this year.

D-eco-rations – Many of us reuse our decorations year after year already but if you are planning on buying new ones this year why not try making some instead. Turn off your lights at night and try to use LED ones instead.

Presents – Take a look around your home. How many things do you already have? Do you really need more stuff? Maybe instead of buying more things this year, you could try an 'experience' Christmas. Like, a trip out to a theme park with a friend. Or a surfing lesson! You can also ask your family to get all their gifts at online eco-stores this year!

We can all play a part in helping the earth this Christmas.

https://www.natgeokids.com/au/kids-club/cool-kids/general-kids-club/eco-friendly-christmas/





This Year in honour of National Volunteer Week, KPSOOSH is collecting donations from the community for the Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick!

This is a great way to support our community and people who are under tremendous stress during the end of year holiday season.

If you would like to participate, please drop of any toys, games gift cards, daily use items and other items to an educator in the OOSH Room when you are picking your child/ren up or dropping them off.

We are extremely grateful for any and all donations we receive, and we would like to extend our thanks to all those who participate in our END OF YEAR TOY DRIVE!



VACATION Care December 2022/ January 2023

WEEK1						
Monday 19th Dec 22	Tuesday 20 th Dec 22	Wednesday 21st Dec 22	Thursday 22nd Dec 22	Friday 23rd Dec 22		
Incursion	In-house	Incursion	Incursion	In-house		
CHRISTMAS SCIENCE FUN	KIDS CHOICE DAY!	FEATHERED FRIENDS	SLIP N SLIDE!	MASTERCHEF DAY		
Enjoy all the excitement		TY!		N SA		
of the festive season with Christmas themed science experiments and hands on activities. Kids will explore a range of fun experiments with some extra glitter for Christmas. There will be lots of mentos and bicarb/vinegar explosions to keep everyone entertained.	Thursday's theme is kid's choice! The children can set the program! This is a day devoted to fun and laughter and we know that the kids always have the very best ideas about what to do! Come ready to create, imagine and have so much fun!	Flying overhead and landing on audience members arms, the incredible bird ambassadors from Feathered Friends provide the opportunity for all kids to handle and interact with these amazing creatures.	Join us for the start of summer with a water play day on the Slip N Slide! We'll have it all set up on the green court ready for super fun day in the sun.	We will be running various cooking activities today, including frog in a pond, sandwich making, and even a teddy bear picnic! We will also enjoy a little movie centred around cooking Ratatouille! The children can enjoy their deserts as they relax after a long day of cooking.		
WEEK 2						
Monday 2nd Jan 23	Tuesday 3rd Jan 23	Wednesday 4th Jan 23	Thursday 5th Jan 22	Friday 6th Jan 22		
CLOSED	CLOSED	o oten		4-4		
	CLUSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED		
WEEK 3						
Monday 9th Jan 23	Tuesday 10th Jan 23	Wednesday 11th Jan 23	Thursday 12th Jan 23	Friday 13th Jan 23		
Monday 9th Jan 23 Incursion	Tuesday 10th Jan 23 Excursion		Thursday 12th Jan 23 Excursion			
Monday 9th Jan 23	Tuesday 10th Jan 23	Wednesday 11th Jan 23	Thursday 12th Jan 23	Friday 13th Jan 23		
Monday 9th Jan 23 Incursion	Tuesday 10th Jan 23 Excursion B. LUCKY & SONS	Wednesday 11th Jan 23 Incursion TINA GREEN CIRCUS	Thursday 12th Jan 23 Excursion GOLDEN RIDGE	Friday 13th Jan 23 In-house		



WEEK 4				
Monday 16th Jan 23	Tuesday 17th Jan 23	Wednesday 18th Jan 23	Thursday 19th Jan 23	Friday 20th Jan 23
incursion	Excursion	Incursion	Excursion	In-House
BUBBLE SOCCER	LUNA PARK	MAGIC SHOW – JUNIORS	NINJA 101	SCIENCE DAY
Bubble Soccer is coming		Witness objects flying, meet his cheeky birds and there's a surprise visit from his 2 adorable,		
back to Kensington! We'll be putting on bubble suits and playing loads of super fun games like Oz tag, chicken run, flag grid iron and more. The session will be run by a supervisor with the help of our lovely educators.	With spectacular views of the harbour, Sydney's much-loved Luna Park is a superbly restored 1930's amusement park where everyone goes just to have fur! Get unlimited access to all the rides you are tall enough to enjoy & bring your lunch and enjoy a picnic on the grounds.	magical rabbits Winnie and Zooks (who love pats). FILM CLUB – SENIORS Join us for an entire day of film-making fun with Startime studios!	Sydney's first and largest ninja obstacle course is ready for you to unleash your inner ninja skills as you jump, climb and balance your way through this obstacle wonderland, suited for both kids and adults alike (our educators are very excited!)	Join us for a day of experiments from exploding volcances to making sour canchy, it bound to be a fun & curiosity-filled day!
WEEK 3				
Monday 23rd Jan 23	Tuesday 24th Jan 23	Wednesday 25th Jan 23	Thursday 26th Jan 23	Friday 27th Jan 23
Incursion	Excursion	Incursion	CLOSED	In-house
GO KARTS	HOLEY MOLEY	EARTH BEATS – AUSTRALIA DAY		RAINBOW DAY
Kids will have the time of	Raily the troops, grab a	A Cool Collection of		
their lives racing in these unique electric go karts driven around an inflatable track under the Cola.	putter and explore our multi-sensory labyrinth inspired by pop culture, and all things 80s & 90s! The kids will have the opportunity to compete against their friends and educators in a 9 hole putting game!	Australian and Indigenous songs, dances and music games, this is a great Australia Day workshop. In global style, Earth Beats also celebrates Australia's cultural diversity with songs from around the world. Singing, dancing and drumming, hands on experience with many different instruments, and most of allfun!		To end the week with bang, we are having a rainbow themed day! Today will be about al things colorful, with plenty of fun, themed activities! So come read to have fun and wear your brightest, most colorful outfits.
				<u> </u>
Monday 30 th Jan 23	Tuesday 31" Jan 23]		
Incursion	SCHOOL IS BACK]		
GAMING BUS				
Kids Mantra Gaming brings the action to you. The kids will have the chance to verse each other in fun and friendly games of Mario Kart, Just		kpsooshcare Kensington Public School Web www.kpsoosh.com.e	eu .	C HOLIDAY 26 JAN 202:







FAQS

We open at 7:15 am and close at 6:15 pm



During Spring, the mornings can be chilly, so please make sure you bring a warm top and keep an eye on the weather so your child is dressed appropriately. We love to get outside, so please remember to wear suitable closed-toe footwear for running around. Please always bring a hat!

MINICAL INFO? 4>



If your child has Asthma, Anaphylaxis, an Allergy or any other medical condition, upload plans to your child's enrolment form on the My Family Lounge Website. Please provide required medications to your venue coordinator on the first day of attendance - In their original packaging, clearly labeled with your child's name and a use-by date. **Please note children are unable to attend our venues without their medication and action plans.



\$70 FLAT FEE FOR X1 VACATION CARE DAY + \$15 for excursion days.

These are for the costs associated with food, buses, ticket prices, etc.



A delicious, nutritious, breakfast and afternoon tea are provided in all programs. Children are required to bring a packed recess & lunch and a refillable water bottle.

When packing your child's lunch, please consider that some children in attendance have been diagnosed with food allergies or the risk of anaphylaxis. We are a nut-free service.



To book a place at Kensington Public School OOSH Care Vacation Care program your child/ren must be enrolled at Kensington Public School OOSH Care through My Family Lounge. To enrol please click the blue "Enrol here" button at the top right-hand corner of our website to view the instructions on enrolling your child/ren. Once your enrolment has been accepted. Vacation Care bookings can be made through the My Family Lounge APP. Once the program is available in week 6 of each term.



Parents are required to walk their child(ren) into the service, and sign them in via the iPads provided. Children must NOT sign themselves in If your child is attending an excursion day, please sign them in by 9 am at the latest.



THIS MONTH WE HAVE LOTS OF NEW FACES AROUND THE CENTRE!

We have had to say our goodbyes to our wonderful Educator, Maria and our Assistant Director, Hunter.

We would also like to welcome our new Educators. Alice, Ellie, and Grace!

FAREWELL YEAR 6

We are sad to say goodbye to our Year 6 students that have made so many memories with all of us at OOSH.

We all wish you the best of luck on your future endeavours through high school and beyond!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW EDUCATORS!

ALICE

ELLIE

GRACE







Rocking around the Christmas Tree

Short simple activities to get some active minutes in the day.

Ok so this is just old fashioned 'statues' jazzed up with some festive fun! Search 'kids Christmas carols', 'dance Christmas carols' or 'upbeat Christmas carols' on your favourite music platform. Take turns at being the music person. Everyone else starts frozen, press play, everyone dances and then press stop everyone freezes in their best Christmas tree pose. Switch the Christmas lights on and press play!

