



K.I.C.S News

Nov/Jan. 2016

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Playgroup Leader
Georgia Leatham
Playgroup Support Assistant
Kate Corney

Administration
Royelene Hill
Hours: Mon Tues. Wed. 8 to 2pm

Field Team 2
Playgroup Leader
Leith Russell
Playgroup Support Assistant
David Bussenschutt

[Find us on Facebook](#)



Clockwise from top right:
Roper Valley Train station, Nancy, Lebron & Henry take home their Playdough, A group hug at Manyallaluk, Shaving cream fun at Newcastle Waters, Violet takes her babies shopping at Brunette Downs.



Katherine Isolated Children's Service
2015 - Contact Details

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A Word from Mandy..

My first year is drawing to a close and I've finally made it to a couple of playgroups with the boys! I feel like I'm getting into the swing of things in regards to office management and funding requirements, all hoops to jump through to keep the KICS teams on the road! Our teams have been travelling hard in this hot weather to ensure the little people in our region have access to play group, and have included a fair bit of water play in their programs too.

A big thank you to the teams for all of their hard work, it has been immeasurably helpful to have independent, confident and wonderful teams to continue the KICS tradition while I get used to the admin side of things. It is of course sad to have to say good bye to Leith and David and their dog Tilly but we wish them well in their adventures with family down South. Hopefully we can replace them with a team who are just as keen to bring the joy of play group to little people. I'm sure Dave's water pipes and Leith's art activities have made an impression on the children they have played with throughout the year.

We are also sad to see Georgia head off on her next big adventure to become a nurse but maybe one day we might see her back in the Territory in the health sector. Her KICS experiences may help inform her paediatric practice, although I don't think camp dogs and wild donkeys will be part of it! We wish her all the best for her future studies. That just leaves Kate to keep on Kicking!

This end of the year it's all parties, goodbyes, hellos and funding acquittals. I'm looking forward to seeing lots of KICS families at our end of year BBQ and pool party and the AGM. I'm also looking forward to the Commando challenge! Will it be Kate or Georgia that is crowned as the Commando Queen?



One of our new Badge making machines getting a workout at Newcastle Waters Station.

Thanks to a generous grant from Roper Gulf Regional Council we were able to purchase two machines, coming soon to a Station or Community near you! Thanks again RGRC :)



Field Team 1's final report..



Team 1 Georgia & Kate

What a wonderful term we've had! The social season finished on a high with us attending Kununurra Ladies day, while they figured out early on that we weren't ladies - we were allowed to stay and spend the day playing with the kids ;) The waterslide has proved a hit in the locations we've had access to green grass and endless water, we've yet to cause any permanent damage to a child and we firmly stand by our defence that dishwashing liquid induced blindness is temporary. Hopefully.

We've got return customers at almost every playgroup we go to now and we get a real kick out of kids remembering our names or the games we played with them last time. The beginnings of the wet season have put a mild dampener on some of our travel plans, but we hope to see you all before the year ends at our Family BBQ in Katherine.

The end of 2015 means saying goodbye to Georgia, as she heads back down to the arctic to try her hand at Nursing at UTAS in Hobart. Third time lucky University! You've got approximately 2 years to get your medical dilemmas sorted before you risk the chance of having her as your nurse! But never fear/don't rejoice too early, Crazy Kate will return for another year of KICS fun in 2016! Word on the street is that she's spending her summer holidays researching new ways to dye children green. Nobody is safe.

An enormous thank you from both of us for all of your hospitality, this year has been incredible and we've met so many great people and hilarious children along the way. We've somehow managed to only have one flat tyre (so far, touch wood, we've obviously excellent drivers) and we even managed to perform two roadside rescues. #heroes

Lots of Love, Georgia & Kate



Field Team 2s final report for 2015. .



Team 2 Leith & Dave

By the end of the year, the weather has to be the main thing on everybody's mind and how near to where we are going is an air conditioned motel room! Nevertheless bush camping is still amazing- watching those clouds build up and hoping its not here. I had no idea Australian trees can shed so many leaves (and make decent shade so hard to find!) Luckily, we've always found good shade for the little children.

The splash pool is the greatest success this term. It holds as many little black bodies as an indigenous family car. Even the dog was seen to collapse in it after a hot game of footy when everyone else had gone back to school.

We've done more painting this term on 2 new easels Dave has made, and on tables, on boxes, on rocks and on KICS library bags Mandy provided thanks to a RGRC grant. Everyone was happy with that.

Our KICS visits are such a special treat. Everywhere we go we are welcomed with generosity and hospitality, though one station had to be reminded that KICS is not a dial-up child minding service to enhance a social event. And some communities seem to be visited by so many government services that the amazingsness of a KICS visit gets forgotten.

We would love a little request on our publicity that a small area be cleaned of rubbish for our arrival (rather than me filling several bags and feeling less enthusiasm for the job in hand.) We can only ask! The kids are becoming good little cleaners and often want to help us pack up.

Amazing little things still happen to add to our memory bank of highlights in this unforgettable year. The other day, as we perched on the draw-bar for a quick coffee while we watched everyone playing, a little boy with stripy home-brand-bleached hair, edged slowly nearer, then wedged himself quietly between us. What more can you say, except, Thank you for the Memories.

Leith and Dave



The Very Special Birthday List...

November

01/11/2004 **Sam Armstrong**
06/11/2007 **Beatrix 'Beetroot' McKechnie**
09/11/2004 **Chloe Towne**
09/11/2004 **Jack Towne**
09/11/2012 **Jay Williamson**
11/11/2011 **Charlie Bulluss**
11/11/2013 **Clancy 'Cool-Kid' Rippon**
11/11/2013 **Sam Coffey**
12/11/2005 **Shantelle Tapp**
19/11/2007 **Kobi Greenman**
23/11/2006 **Troy Hobbs**
24/11/2010 **Olivia Partland**
25/11/2013 **Amelia Gill**
25/11/2007 **Kash Angel**
29/11/2007 **Colton Lorimer**
30/11/2013 **Lilly Harding**
30/11/2010 **Luke Hobbs**

December

03/12/2011 **Chloe Rummenie**
07/12/2008 **Dasharma Nelson**
07/12/2010 **Issabel Blackstone**
08/12/2011 **Tex Hill**
09/12/2007 **James Slater**
11/12/1992 **Kate 'Legend' Corney**
12/12/2008 **Georgina Russell**
16/12/2004 **Benjamin Hockey**
16/12/2009 **MacKenzie Cook**
20/12/2010 **Jack Jones**
29/12/2009 **Charlie 'Mad dog' Murphy**

January

01/01/2007 **Lachlan Johnson**
01/01/2009 **Nate Williamson**
02/01/2009 **Nathan Hockey**
05/01/2007 **William Brett**
06/01/2014 **Daisy Paine**
06/01/2012 **William 'Bull rider' Rudd**
09/01/2005 **Olivia Rasheed**
11/01/2003 **William Rachor**
12/01/2007 **Kane Ekert**
14/01/2014 **Emylou Brock**
15/01/2008 **Emily Towne**
23/01/2009 **Bridie Krebs**
23/01/2006 **William Johnson**
24/01/2007 **Danyelle Shepherd**
24/01/2009 **Sarah Dakin**
27/01/2010 **Charlie Gatty**

Do not ask your children to strive for extraordinary lives. Such striving may seem admirable, but it is the way of foolishness. Help them instead to find the wonder and the marvel of an ordinary life. Show them the joy of tasting tomatoes, apples and pears. Show them how to cry when pets and people die. Show them the infinite pleasure in the touch of a hand. And make the ordinary come alive for them. The extraordinary will take care of itself.

- William Martin

K.I.C.S is proudly funded by:

The Federal Department of Social Services

I've learned ... that having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.



Great for
campdrafts-
camping-
school rooms-
playgroups.

K.I.C.S

Indoor / Outdoor Waterproof Mats.
Made from 100% recycled
plastic.

Road tested by K.I.C.S
Playgroups.

1.8 x 3 m
\$90 each



Also comes in **green**.
Reversible,
Foldable

Contact K.I.C.S 08 8971 0196
kics@bigpond.com

Our Field Teams carry some of these
great mats with them in case you
want to purchase one at playgroups.
Alternatively, you can contact the
KICS office or call in when you are
in town.

Bring out the old clothes...!

It would be advisable to dress your
children in old clothes when
attending K.I.C.S Playgroups.
K.I.C.S use non - toxic paint for
art activities but cannot guarantee
that paint stains will wash out. We
have been advised that to work on
these stains you need to use warm
water without detergent.

Or, K.I.C.S **colourful**, cotton
Tó Shirts @\$15 ea would be the
appropriate outfit when attending
our Playgroups. The K.I.C.S
Teams do carry a supply of these
T óshirts with them.

Sizes 0 to 12

Check them out!



Scholastic Book Club

Thank you for your support to our
Book Club fundraising. Issue 8 has
been circulated.



Vegetable dye

powder in the primary
colours, **Red - Blue - Yellow** for
the home classroom can be
expensive. We have packaged smaller
amounts of the 3 colours to accompany
our Kidø Recipes / Activity Card.

At \$5, this handy
little kit will be an asset when
preparing daily, fun activities for the
little people. A **win, win**
situation, as you will be
supporting our fund raising effort as
well!

KICS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 8th December 2015 at 12.30pm

K.I.C.S. office and teleconference

All members and interested persons are invited to participate.
There will be an election of Office Bearers and Members onto the Board.
For more details or to register your attendance phone 89710 196 or email
kics@bigpond.com

You're Invited to the 2015 KICS Family BBQ!

Once again we'll be firing up the BBQ and pumping up the Com-
mando course for one last bit of KICS fun for 2015.

*Come and catch up with friends, have a swim & a sausage and help us
farewell some of our KICS team members.*

We will be at The Katherine Pool on
Sunday the 6th of December from 2.30 - 4.30.

Please RSVP by December 1st for catering purposes on 89710 196 or
coordinator@kics.org.au We hope to see you there!

As a Fundraiser K.I.C.S has a supply of
Legionnaire caps bearing the K.I.C.S logo. This type of cap has a broad
hood and a flap that covers the back of the neck and ears. They are
100% cotton and Velcro adjustable to fit.

Colours /navy or black.

@ \$8 each

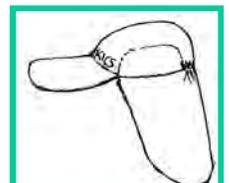
or

we are offering a package deal of a K.I.C.S Tee-shirt (100%
cotton, various colours) and a Legionnaireø cap for:

\$20

Both the cap and tee-shirt have the full K.I.C.S logo.
(for the sake of the small sketches the full logo is incomplete)

The tee-shirt also has a map of the NT on the back.



K.I.C.S Cluster Groups

Could you please look over the Cluster grouping below and decide if you would like to be placed in other clusters. In many cases some families are in travel distance of more than one cluster area, giving the opportunity to attend extra playgroups. Please fill out this form and return ASAP.

If you are unsure of your cluster areas, please contact us.

Name:ô -

Station / Community:ô -

Preferred Cluster / Clusters:ô --



Clusters

Barkly
Newcastle Waters
Kiana

Daly Waters
Gorrie Loop

Limmen

Kalkaringi
Lajamanu
Riveren

WA Border
Timber Creek

Mataranka
Roper

Ngukurr

Numbulwar

Top Springs
VRD

The K.I.C.S Web Site can be found at www.kics.org.au

Check it out!



Thanks to Mick Elligett from www.tropics.net.au for designing this fabulous site for us.

We have a vast collection of photos from the K.I.C.S. Playgroup albums and would like to give you the opportunity to browse through them by including them on our web site. This would make the photos available for public viewing. We need your permission to place your child's photo on our web site and face book. The photos will not disclose personal details (names etc.) other than the Playgroup venue and date.

There would also be occasions when K.I.C.S need visual material for broader publication to promote the Service to a wider community eg. media articles and presentations at Conferences.

Before K.I.C.S can go ahead with this we need you as parents or guardians to complete the following form and return to us ASAP. If you have already completed a permission form you would only need to do so again if you have new children to add.

Many thanks.

PERMISSION FOR USE OF VISUAL MATERIAL

I give approval for visual materials containing my children/family to be used for the purpose of promoting K.I.C.S. to the wider community through our web site, face book, media articles and children's services conference presentations.

Parent/s/Guardian Name: _____

Child/Children's Name: _____

Station/Community _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

K.I.C.S is a non profit organisation.

To enhance our funds and to enable us to purchase resources we fundraise throughout the year.

The *Scholastic Book Club* is our ongoing fundraiser, raising credit coupons to purchase books for our ever growing library.

We also sell Indoor/Outdoor waterproof mats, *K.I.C.S Kid's T-shirts, adult polo and chambray shirts* and *Kid's Fun Stuff recipe cards/with vegetable dye.*

We have tried different fund raising ideas over the years which have been well received.

Our end of the year *Toy Catalogue Fundraiser* gives families the opportunity to shop for quality toys and educational resources. K.I.C.S receive 20% on all orders placed allowing us to purchase resources with the money earned.

In order to keep mailing costs at a minimum we need to ascertain who is interested in receiving *fundraising information* throughout the year.

Could you please take a moment and fill in the form below and return at your earliest convenience.

Thank You.

I do I don't wish to receive: Book Club

I do I don't wish to receive: Toy Catalogues

I do I don't wish to receive: information on other fund raising ventures as they arise.

Name: _____