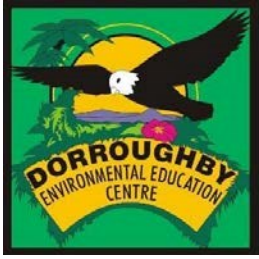


# Dorroughby Environmental Education Centre



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## DORROUGHBY EEC TERM 3 2018

Please distribute this newsletter to all teachers interested in Sustainability Education.



### GENERAL NEWS

Jingelah Bloggerman! Hello Colleagues.

Term 3 has been a full, productive and fun term. We started the term by hosting our Western region Environmental educator's conference with teachers attending to share latest ideas on enviro education. We enjoyed teaching in our new outdoor Yarning Circle. We have worked with The Office of Environment and Heritage to tour threatened species around to local schools to raise awareness for threatened species week and have had a hoot running some fun STEM activities. Students have engaged in Biology and Geography fieldwork trips, lots of overnight educational camps and we have enjoyed paddling on the

Brunswick river in our Kayaks to review Human impact and assess the water quality. DEEC are grateful to those teachers who book with us and lend us their students for a day or 3. Thanks also to the students who have learnt with us in the outdoor setting. Our resident platypuses have been very active in the dam and in our office ???



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## Threatened species week Zoomobile



For the fifth year running we toured endangered animals from Macadamia Castle to 4 host schools seeing over 450 students for Threatened Species Week. This year we partnered with 'Save our Species' Community Engagement Officer Gordon Fraser who spoke with the students about his work at the NSW Government Office of Environment and Heritage and delivered messages on how students can act to help save our endangered species. We looked on the Save Our Species map and encouraged schools to adopt a local species and design management strategy to help improve habitat for our endangered local animals. Senior students participated in fun STEM activities to design a product that could be used to mitigate threats and improve habitat for these cute creatures.



Gordon's Message was: "Don't Flog the Log and don't Knock the Rock" when visiting a National Park and Macadamia Castles message was keep cats inside, look out for native animals and plant native trees. Dorroughby EEC helped students undertake a habitat survey of the school yard and make a plan for how to improve their grounds for endangered animals

## Yuli Camp



This term DEEC coordinated another successful Stage 3 culture leadership camp with year 6 students from 5 schools in the Kingscliff area. The students were here on a 3 day camp learning about bush tucker, the big scrub, and sharing knowledge about Bundjalung history and culture.

The students were accompanied by a wonderful group of youth mentors from Kingscliff High School who led them in cultural games songs and dances. Leadership and culture were the theme throughout the camp and a creative educational time was had by all! DEEC would

like to send out a large thank you to all the visiting teachers and mentors who came and assisted.



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## Geography on the Brunswick River



We greatly enjoyed taking our first group of seniors out on the Brunswick River in our Kayaks to explore human impact on the water and collect data to access Abiotics in a variety of marine sites. The students had loads of practice using Geographers tools and paddled well. Thanks to Clay Pawson for volunteering his time as an extra helper on the water.



**Kayak program:** DEEC is happy to offer kayaking excursions in our local waterways for primary and high schools. Cost is \$20 per student.

## Programs on offer...



### Stage 5 Geography Program at Cabarita Beach and Brunswick Heads:

DEEC has collaborated with Geography teachers to create a day of activities at Cabarita Beach or at Brunswick Heads Nature Reserve. Activities complement the new Geography syllabus and give the students a hands on day using Geographer's Tools and equipment to collect and analyse data.

**New Syllabus Senior Science Depth Studies:** A day with DEEC at one of our field sites could be the jumping off point for your Senior Science Depth Studies. We use tools to measure and compare abiotic and biotic features in Dry Schlerophyll and Sub Tropical Rainforest; and can set up scientific inquiry projects at aquatic/marine sites. Ring and discuss it with DEEC teaching staff.

## Bunya the school yard fairy

This term our office has been busy with mail in relation to our K-2 Need for Shelter excursion. Students have been receiving correspondence from our newest (littlest) teaching assistant; Bunya the Schoolyard fairy. She is very excited to help students learn about what the animals at DEEC needs are with regards to shelter and to find out what the habitat is like for animals in your schools. Since we have started listening to the little people we have noticed fairy houses popping up all around DEEC.



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**Botanical Illustrations:** DEEC has developed a new multistage program where students learn about plant adaptations, the big scrub rainforest and how to make a botanical illustration of the trees in your school yard. Your school may wish to use these illustrations to create a student made plant guide for your school.

**Stage 4 Geography Program at Ballina Flatrock:** DEEC has collaborated with Geography teachers to create a day of activities at Ballina Flatrock that complement the new Geography syllabus topic - LIVABILITY. Activities involve dissecting Ballina's services, learning about the Indigenous past of the area and using Geographer's Tools to collect data - flora and fauna transects, field sketches, coastal abiotics and mapping.

**Stage 2-3 Colonial History Program:** DEEC staff has a fabulous History Program for Stage 2-3. This is a day program that can stand alone or become part of a 2-3 day camp. The emphasis on the 1880s - way of life of the Cedar Getters and their family, how this changed the Bundjalung Nation's lives and the impact it had on Country. Students are taken back to a bygone era and can take part in activities like butter-making etc., meet a cedar-getter role play, engage in an old school house and play colonial games. This program can be extended into a 2 day program where students learn about archaeology, examine artefacts and take part in an archaeological dig.

#### **Stage 5 History Programs:**

DEEC staff has been working to expand DEEC's repertoire of programs based on the new Australian History Curriculum. We have developed a 2 day excursion that compliments the Stage 5: History - Depth Study 5: The Globalising World - The environmental movement (1960s - present) and we are still looking for a Year 11 class to trial it with.

#### **Bush Tucker Program:**



DEEC run a Bush Tucker Day Program. Students learn about Bundjalung Culture - Bush Foods and Medicines from this area. They then cook and share a meal using local ingredients. What bush tucker is fruiting in your school yard?

Have a relaxing Term 3 break,

Team Dorroughby ☺



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### Highlights from Term 3:

1. Abiotics on the Brunswick River
2. Dave Harvey Welcomes Our Environmental Educators
3. Students enjoy using our microscopes
4. James Larsson from OZ fish talks about mangroves
5. Gordon Fraser OEH was our fab Guest speaker at WESTIES Conference
- 6 & 7. Students learn about water quality and rainforests at Rocky Creek Dam
8. Our new yarning circle (Thanks Tony!)



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