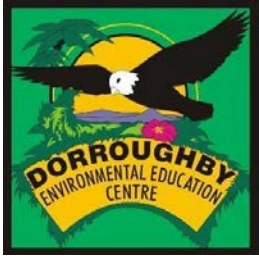


Dorroughby Environmental Education Centre



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DORROUGHBY EEC TERM 3 2019

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



GENERAL NEWS

Jingelah Bloggerman! Hello Colleagues!

Term 3 has shaped up to be a very busy term with all possible dates booked before the end of Term 2. Thank you to all who have attended DEEC activities this term. We have had great time engaging with your students and connecting them to nature.

At the term beginning DEEC staff travelled to Wagga Wagga to join with other environmental educators from rural NSW for our annual 'westies' EZEC conference. We were warmly welcomed by Auntie Joycelan Williams, a proud Wiradjuri elder, Wagga resident for over 20 years. As a mature age student she put herself through university, while raising a young family, to study to become a primary school teacher. Auntie Joycelan has taught in Wagga schools for over 20 years and in her retirement years finds time to be the Riverina EEC elder in residence. Geoff Simpson the Senior Scientist, Community and Aboriginal Engagement officer from the Science Division of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment talked about the value of collecting wellbeing Data for assessing effectiveness of cultural engagement offered by EEC's. Greg Summerell Office of Environment and Heritage, Science Division, Director Ecosystem Management discussed how they are managing the land with dough and salt stores a plenty and we learnt about the role of Drone technology in mapping environmental change for science and geography teaching



Environment = Life

from Lachlan Feeney from Australian UAV. All the EECs participating ran workshops for our colleagues. DEEC ran their workshop on the topic of implementing drumming for wellbeing into an EEC setting.

Threatened Species Week.

DEEC's outstanding teacher Tamlin Heathwood once again coordinated an amazing program with Macadamia Castle Educators, visiting local schools to educate students about threatened species. Thank you to all schools and students who participated in this educational and exciting annual program.



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Nimbin CS - Earth and Environment Stage 6 Science program - McLeay Wetlands and Tuckean Nature Reserve

This term, Anthony Neenan from Nimbin CS brought his enthusiastic and engaged students to our new local field study program created to support Stage 6 Science - Earth and Environment and Biology. Students visited the local McLeay Wetlands and the borage at the Tuckean Reserve. Local OZFish chairman John Larsson and Matthew Stevens from the RMS presented to the students; they learnt about past, present and future management of the areas; and carried out Water Quality Testing in both sites.



Our Amazing School Administrative Manager

Dorroughby EEC would like to acknowledge the efforts of our incredibly hard working S.A.M Robyn Darke. Robyn tirelessly and good humouredly keeps DEEC on an even keel and her organisation skills are very much appreciated. This term Robyn's contribution to public education was acknowledged at the Lismore Office Education Awards. Robyn displays outstanding professionalism in her role; has a cheerful disposition and excellent teamwork skills; provides excellence in customer service; is an invaluable support for all DEEC staff; and shows kindness, congeniality, collegiality at all times. We are grateful at DEEC to have Robyn as our SAM.



Programs we offer include...

Stage 6 Science program - McLeay Wetlands and Tuckean Nature Reserve - **NEW**

A local field study program created to support Stage 6 Science - Earth and Environment and Biology: Students visit local McLeay Wetland and the borage at the Tuckean Reserve; meet with local Science experts; learn about past, present and future management of the areas; and carry out Water Quality Testing.



NEW Soil - Beneath Our Feet **NEW**

Dorroughby EEC is now offering a Stage 3 Soil Science Investigation that supports Primary Connections - Beneath Our Feet and the DETNSW syllabi. Students classify soil, investigate soil erosion, use modern microscopes, practice observing and recording scientific data and create art with their own soil crayon and soil watercolours.

NEW Marvellous Microbes **NEW**

This is an S3 incursion that happens in 2 half days 1-2 weeks apart. Students learn about micro-organisms and their role in the ecosystem. They swab designated parts of the school following scientific processes. On the return visit students examine what the swabs have grown on petri dishes under microscopes, document and analyse the results.



NEW Maths in Nature...



New program for Stage 2-3 students explores aspects of Maths in the outdoor classroom. Students explore symmetry; carbon sequestration; fractions with natural objects; mapping and grid skills; and create and utilise clinometers to calculate tree heights. This can be run as an incursion, off site or at DEEC.



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Kayak program: DEEC is happy to offer kayaking excursions in our local waterways for primary and high schools. Cost is \$20 per student but kayak numbers are limited. DEEC are happy to take small groups for an educational paddle or split a class to do on shore activities and a paddle in rotation.



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. 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. We have also modified this program to suit schools - and used the sites of Belongil and Wategos Beaches this term.

Senior Science: 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

Dorroughby is always kept 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.



Botanical Illustrations: DEEC offers a 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 abiotic 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 -an archaeological dig is also available.



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?

Thanks to the students, staff and schools for successful learning engagement this term.
Team Dorroughby.



The flower for the future child that was part of Richmond River HS's Environmental workshop this term. ☺



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