

Rumbalara

Environmental Education Centre

Donnison Street, Gosford NSW 2250 Phone: (02)43247200 Fax: (02)43237451
Email: rumbalara-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au Web: www.rumbalara.eec.education.nsw.gov.au

Environmental Education News for Central Coast Teachers

Term 2 Week 10 2012

**Please distribute to the Environmental Education Contact
and others interested in environmental sustainability.**

*Our email newsletters are designed to support environmental education in Central Coast schools by providing succinct information about environmental happenings, resources, events, grants etc. Your contributions are welcome. If you are receiving this newsletter as a paper copy **please consider providing us with your email so that we can send it directly (usually 2 per term).***

EVENTS and ACTIONS

Some unfortunate news has come to our attention this month with the Public Schools Realignment. Part of the changes will include the **removal of two** Senior Development Officers- Sustainability (both currently working at NSW Curriculum & Learning Innovation Centre). The removal of these positions means there will be no high level sustainability education officers to provide strategic delivery of best practice in the sustainable management of schools; engage with academics and teachers to ensure innovation through research; curriculum development and implementation across the Key Learning Areas; and the associated authentic learning and student engagement opportunities arising from sustainability and environmental education. More information on this issue and how you can help can be found at the following website.
www.aaensw.org.au/article/save-sustainability-education-nsw-take-action-now

DEC SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS 2012 – entries due this week.

If your school has been working on some interesting and innovative sustainability projects this year you can achieve recognition through the DEC Sustainability Awards. Winners attend an official award ceremony with relief payment available for attending teachers. The awards day is a great opportunity to learn about other projects across the state and a great networking opportunity. Apply on line but have your entries due by the 29th June.

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/deptresources/majorprojects/envirosustain/lrnsustain/register/index.htm>

Clean Up Australia - Help us clean up containers!

Australians use up to 13 billion containers every year. Beverage related rubbish is the most common type found by our volunteers on Clean Up Australia Day. Across the country it represents 48% of reported rubbish. When bottles and cans end up in the environment they are not just an eyesore, they harm wildlife and become killers if mistaken for food.

To reduce the litter issue a campaign is being organised to promote 10 cent deposits for all containers recycled at a depot station (currently only occurs in S.A and NT)

For more information about the campaign visit and how schools can help

<http://www.cleanup.org.au/au/Whatelsewesupport/why-do-we-need-a-container-deposit-legislation-.html>

GRANTS

CMA Sponsorship Program

Do you have an environmental education project, event or activity you need some assistance with? Local Government, schools, and non-government community groups and networks are invited to apply for up to \$1500 sponsorship from the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority for educational projects, events or activities that have a focus on improving catchment health.

Contact the CMA on (02) 4930 1030 or download an application form from www.hcr.cma.nsw.gov.au/articles/news.asp?news_id=178§ion_id=6

Funds are assessed and distributed throughout the year until funds are depleted.

Gould League of NSW Scholarship to attend Australian Association Environmental Education Conference 2012

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide teachers, tertiary students and environmental educators, with financial assistance (up to \$1500) to attend the AAEE National or NSW state annual conference or an equivalent professional learning activity. To be eligible for the award applicants must be able to demonstrate they are upholding the values of the Gould League.

For full details and an application form visit: <http://www.aaeensw.org.au/article/gould-league-nsw-scholarship-applications-now-open>. Applications close Friday, 29 June.

2012 Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grants now open

Schools, kindergartens, day care centres, youth groups and community looking to start their own garden program can apply for a Coles Junior Landcare garden grant by registering with Junior Landcare. Round 3 closes Friday 27 July. Go to www.juniorlandcare.com.au

Nominate for the Indigenous Governance Awards

The 2012 Indigenous Governance Awards (IGA) are about promoting and sharing stories of what works in Indigenous communities and organisations and how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people themselves are driving real change on the ground.

Find out more at www.reconciliation.org.au/governance

Caring for our Country funding

The Australian Government has announced that it will commit more than \$2 billion to continue Caring for our Country from 2013–14 to 2017–18. Consultations will take place from May to August 2012 to ensure that stakeholders remain involved in the program's design.

For more information on the consultation and future direction of the CFOC program, go to the NRM website: www.nrm.gov.au or the Caring for our Country online forum: www.caringforourcountryreview.com.au.

Earthwatch is a student challenge for 16-17 year olds to experience what science is about in a research expedition for one week. They are able to offer 30 fully-funded places on our Student Challenge Program for 2012/1. Entries close July 23.

http://www.earthwatch.org/australia/expeditions/stud_teen_teams/

RESOURCES

UNESCO video clips

UNESCO has just released 5 short video clips focus on people who are agents of change in Peru, South Africa, Cambodia, Brazil and Sri Lanka illustrate various aspects of Education for Sustainable Development in the Rio+20 context of moving from green economies to green societies.

http://www.unesco.org/archives/multimedia/index.php?id_page=34&pattern=fro m+green+economies

Geography Challenge and outdoor field work videos

The Geography challenge includes a virtual field work experience for students. 17 short videos covering techniques for: weather monitoring, abiotic water quality testing, biotic testing and observations could also provide an excellent set of videos for students as part of a pre-excursion activity. This may then reduce time taken for explanations and familiarisation in the field.

<http://www.geographychallenge.nsw.edu.au/Default.aspx>

Trade Secrets

A great site for inspiring high schools student to look at green skills. Go to Watch and then scroll down to a series of excellent videos on green skills.

<http://www.tradesecrets.org.au/videos/#Skills%20for%20the%20Future>

Responses to Professor Ian Plimer's 101 climate questions

You may recall The Institute of Public Affairs paid for hundreds of copies of Plimer's How to get expelled from school: a guide to climate change for pupils, parents and punters to be sent to schools across the country.

After teachers and climate change scientists "raised concerns with the department that this book was being provided to schools" the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency put together a document rebutting each of Plimer's 101 climate change questions. It was published last wednesday on the feds DCCEE site <http://www.climatechange.gov.au/climate-change/understanding-climate-change/response-to-prof-plimer.aspx>

Documentary, Waste Not, and the new website (to be launched on 5 June)

TEC's enthralling and award winning film about garbage, *Waste Not*, has had incredible success since it won Best Documentary Film at St Kilda Film Festival last year. *Waste Not* has already sold to over 100 schools and tertiary institutions, as well as local councils around Australia. It is distributed by Ronin films, and via a license agreement on our website.

If you follow this link www.tec.org.au you can watch the trailer

For more information contact Ruth Hessey w: 0292115022 m: 0425253293

IT'S DIARY TIME!! KEEP A FREE GREEN LANE DIARY FOR TERM 3

Running over Term 3, students receive a free diary and keep a scrapbook of their actions and projects that are making a difference. The diary is jam packed with positive stories about kids across the country who are taking charge of their future - It is your student's gateway to all things sustainable, civic minded and environmental. Register now for your student copies in time for term 3, visit www.greenlanediary.org/

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

NSW Board of Studies – Revised Curriculum <http://draftsyllabuses.bos.nsw.edu.au/>

As you know the implementation of Australian Curriculum in NSW will be through a set of revised NSW Board of Studies Syllabus. The link takes you to an interactive site describing the revised syllabus content and organisation. Feedback on Sustainability and Environment has been provided to the Board through the two consultation periods.

Sustainability and Environment is now described as 'Learning across the curriculum' area (along with 10 other areas – eg Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Ethical understanding). It is defined for each subject area. Mapping against content has been undertaken and is indicated by an icon next to outcomes statements within each content area.

Sustainability education presentation

The approval of the Sustainability education policy is on hold until the Office of Schools. Some of the policy support materials developed will be modified and made available on the Environmental Education website. A power-point presentation on Sustainability Education is available at http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/env_ed/index.htm

Australian Story – return to Wooleen

Check out this part 2 of this story of commitment to rehabilitating the land.
<http://www.abc.net.au/austory/specials/returntwooleen/default.htm>

Are we now indifferent to the issues of environment?

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/nation-now-indifferent-to-environment-20120429-1xt25.html>

GREEN DATES

July 2011

3rd
NAIDOC Week

29th
Schools Tree Day

31st
National Tree Day

FAREWELL

We would like to wish Christine Freeman a fond farewell from all her friends at Rumbalara and other Central Coast Schools. Christine has been with Rumbalara for 14 years and many of you will have enjoyed a fun learning experience under Christine's expertise. Christine is moving to Dorroughby EEC in her newly appointed position as Principal.

Although we will all miss her greatly, we wish her the very best in her well deserved promotion.

GOOD LUCK CHRISTINE! AND THANK YOU!

