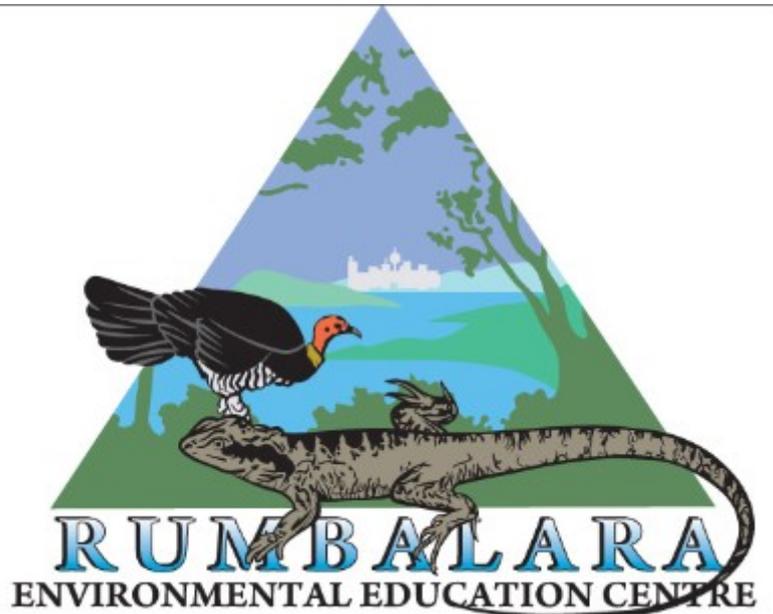


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Rumbalara EEC News - Term 4, Week 8, 2016

Around the Schools - Spotlight on Holgate P.S

Each newsletter we would like to help promote the sustainability activities happening around our local schools. If you have a story for next term please contact Christine Freeman at Rumbalara EEC.

Well done to **Holgate Public School** - Environmental School of the year (small school category) Central Coast Council Environment Awards.

Holgate P.S have been working hard this year to make their school environmentally sustainable. They have a student environment club called the 'Green Dream Team' that helps think of ways to improve the school and ensure the plans are put into action. The team has its own student designed logo and a feature section in the schools newsletter..



The 'Take 3' Turtle Project was a real highlight this year and was able to implement many waste saving practices. The 'Turtle Team' conducted a waste audit that encouraged the whole school to reduce waste. New ideas included;

- the purchasing of new garbage bins with coloured coded lids for recycling, organics and general waste,
- recycling competition where students can win points for recycling
- turtle signage around the school encourages everyone to do the right thing
- 'Turtle Rangers' that search for rubbish left on the ground
- a 'Turtle Meter' that will show how clean the playground is at the end of lunch.

The turtle team approached the canteen and asked them to stop purchasing plastic cups, plastic spoons and straws. This resulted in reusable cups and spoons purchased for foods like yoghurt.

A song was also written with a video clip that was shown to the whole school. The song won a 'Highly Commended' prize at the council environment awards. The end result was **75% reduction in waste** found in the playground.

The school also has many other sustainable practices such as worm farms, vegetable gardens and a frog pond.. They participate in National Tree Day and continue to plant out their wildlife corridor that connects the school to Katandra Reserve. They also have a rainforest garden with interpretive signage that is being improved with parent plant donations.

If you would like to find out more contact Amy Ball (Assistant Principal) Holgate P.S

Please watch the video and song by following the you tube

link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AGXWgh08nrQ&app=desktop>

INVITATION

Green Drinks for Environmental Educators

Wed, 14 Dec, 2016

5-6 pm

Byblos Restaurant & Bar, Kibble Park Gosford

Allow \$5-\$10 each towards finger food (payable on the day)

Buy Your Own Drinks

Please join us for some end of year networking on Wednesday, 14 December – at Byblos Restaurant & Bar, Gosford.

(Byblos is located at 124 Donnison St, Gosford, looking onto Kibble Park - www.byblosgosford.com.au/)

Whether you are an environmental educator, a teacher, community member or somebody that works in an area to do with natural resources / environment - then this is for you!

This is an informal gathering to mingle and share stories about the year that was.... and the exciting things planned for 2017.

Please let us know if you are coming - [Click here to RSVP](#)

Hope to see you there!

Coordinated by Anni Griffiths (Central Coast Council), Chris Freeman (Rumbalara EEC) and Jane Smith (Community Environment Network (GEN) / Rumbalara EEC)

Environmental Arts Day

29 Stage 3 students from 15 different Central Coast schools had a great day on the 7th November participating in a GATS Creative Art's day at Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre. Students worked with teachers in workshops on nature photography and camera angles and received a framed photo of their chosen photo from the day. Students also learnt various painting techniques and created a multimedia art-work based on the environment at the Rumbalara Reserve. Their work will be displayed as an exhibition at Rumbalara. EEC. Check out all the photos of the day on our web site <http://www.rumbalara-e.schools.nsw.edu.au/gallery/environmental-arts-day-2016>

We would like to personally thank Greater Sydney Local Land Services for their support with funding this fantastic project.

We are also excited to announce that we have secured State Arts Funding and will be repeating the program in 2017 - so watch this space!



Professional Learning-Science

Rumbalara EEC is working with the Central Coast CAG to deliver a science professional learning afternoon at

Rumbalara EEC on 16th February 2017. This will be a showcase of science investigations across stages that you can implement at your school. Please see attached flyer [CAG Science PL](#)

Also on show will be science investigations from our Bright Sparks Trailer that is still available to be booked by your school for free in 2016. Please see attached brochure [Bright Sparks](#)



Rumbalara EEC Environmental Sustainability Forum 2017

Save the Date: Friday, 17 March 2017

The schools sustainability leaders are those wonderful teachers that take responsibility for coordinating and encouraging environmental education and best practice environmental management within the school.



Whether you are experienced or just getting started, our annual meeting of environmental education coordinators is designed to support you. It provides the latest information on local initiatives, resources and support so that you can more effectively coordinate, encourage and support Environmental Education at your school. Share achievements, network with like minded people, meet Rumbalara, agency and community EE providers and get practical ideas on teaching outside the classroom. **The course will be \$20 per teacher** and lunch will be provided.

Bookings And New Programs

Now is the time to book in for your 2017 school excursion with Rumbalara.

New for 2017, we have Stage1-3 Geography programs available that cover outcomes from the NSW Geography Syllabus, and enable students to learn various geographical tools, such as field sketching, annotated diagrams, data collection and locating rainforest habitat and wildlife corridors.



Next year we have a new **iPad Documentary program** that allows students to become young David Attenboroughs, and make nature documentaries about the biodiversity in

your school grounds. We have also set up our science lab at Rumbalara with a great **new STEM program** that also supports the primary connections unit 'Feathers, Fur and Leaves'.

Don't forget about our '**Bright Sparks' Program**, which is an opportunity for your students to learn about alternative energy. The trailer has over seven science investigations to complete and supports the working scientifically strand of the new science syllabus. It's very engaging and comes to your school. This program still has funding available so we can support this for free for at least another ten schools in 2017. After this we will need to charge a \$4 fee per student.

For our High Schools we have developed some new resources to support our field work and are offering a **new Geography program** at **Wyrabalong North National Park for Stage 4 Landscapes and Landforms**.

This year we have had so much demand that we have had to increase our prices to \$4 per student to enable us to allow all schools to have access to our services. Rumbalara EEC will consider financial assistance for those schools who are unable to cover all costs.

Look for all these programs on our website <http://www.rumbalara-e.schools.nsw.edu.au/programs/primary-k-6>

We have a new on-line booking system - [so if you would like to make a booking for 2017 then please click here.](#)

Wise About Waste - School Incursions available to all Central Coast Schools in 2017

Rumbalara EEC invites your school to participate in a **Wise About Waste** School Incursion aimed at **Stage 2 students**. The program is funded by Central Coast Council and brought to your school by educators from Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre **for free**.

The *Wise about Waste* Incursion has a suggested structure of a whole-Stage-2 20 minute introduction followed by up to five 45 minute sessions throughout the day. Classes rotate through up to five different lessons, presented by visiting educators and your school's teachers. The lesson notes for each topic are supplied upon booking confirmation and the *Wise about Waste* Educator/s bring the resources for six different lessons/topics:



1. History of Waste
2. So much stuff – looking at materials
3. Beyond the Bin - The 7 R's/ Zero Waste
4. Shopper Power – responsible consumption
5. Land Litter and Marine Pollution

6. Nature's Recyclers

Discussion with Rumbalara Educators before the day will help schools adapt the program to meet the needs and learning goals of their individual school. A pre-requisite to have the incursion is the completion of a Waste Audit within the last 12 months. Please phone Rumbalara if you need assistance with this.

We have 20 positions available for all Central Coast Schools this year. First in first served.

[Click here to download and complete a Waste Wise Expression of interest form](#) with your three preferences of **Wednesdays starting between Term 1 2017.**

Professional Learning Opportunities - Marine, Coasts and Estuaries



Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre is working with the **Central Coast Marine Discovery Centre** and the **University of Newcastle** to plan our professional learning program for 2017.

If you are a teacher involved in delivering programs related to marine studies, coastal or estuary environments - or if you just have an interest in this area - **then please take a few minutes to complete our survey.**



[Click here to complete the survey.](#)

We will use the results of the survey to develop resources, professional learning programs and network meetings to support teachers, and students, in 2017.

Please also forward this survey to any colleagues that you think might also be interested.

For more information - email: admin@ccmdc.org.au

CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

Well done to all schools who participated in the council environment awards.

GOSFORD REGION Environmental School of the Year

Holgate Public School (small school)
Chertsey Public School (Large School)

Environmental School of the Year

Holgate Public School (small school)
Chertsey Public School (Large School)



Council Award for Performing Arts Chertsey Public School
Highly commended Performing Arts Holgate Public School

Special Awards -

Most student Involvement Point Clare Public School
Most Improved Copacabana Public School
Most Improved Central Coast Grammar School
Best Care of a Waterway Gosford Public School
Most involved in the theme Wyoming Public School

WYONG REGION

Environmental School of the Year

Wanervale Public School
Manning Park Public School

Other winners include

Ourimbah Public School
Tacoma Public School
Wyong Creek Public School

We are on social media

Check out our Facebook page for all the latest information and updates on programs, events and school news!

Don't forget you can 'Like ' and 'Share' our page <https://www.facebook.com/rumbalaraeec/> And also upload your own school's images from your special school excursion day with Rumbalara.



Mini Grants Programs 2016-17

Are you part of a community group or not for profit organisation (including schools) that is planning an educational event or developing an educational resource for the local community?

Grants of between \$500 and \$1500 are available to improve skills and or promote the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources that meet National Landcare Programme objectives.

Activities that aim to build community awareness, participation, skills and knowledge in caring for their environment, including Aboriginal knowledge and participation can include:

- community events
- running of field days, workshops and courses
- educational signage
- production and distribution of educational resources such as fact sheets and booklets
- small scale demonstration style on-ground works that have an education focus.

Complete the [online form](#). **Please note this form doesn't allow you to save and resume part way through and so please be prepared to complete the entire form in one sitting.**

For further information or to discuss a proposal contact Maree Whelan in the Wyong office on 02 4355 8201. This project is supported by Greater Sydney Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme.

Save The Date WEEC 2017

The 9th WEEC (World Environmental Education Congress) will be held in Vancouver, Canada,

9-15 September 2017. The title will be CultureEnvironment: *Weaving new connections*

Vancouver wants to be the greenest city in the world by 2020. Vancouver is already Canada's greenest city, has the smallest per capita carbon footprint of any city in North America and is an industry-recognized front runner in green building, planning and technology.

In consideration of themes and programming for the proposed 2017 congress the local organizing committee envisions a broad and inclusive view of topics on environmental and sustainability education that will highlight the impact of urban ecosystems and local, place based initiatives that can be translated into practices on a global scale. Of particular interest is the interplay among cultural and environmental factors.

[AAEE 2016 National Conference website >>](#)

Green Dates 2016 Term 4

- 10 December [International Human Rights Day](#) 
- 11 December [International Mountain Day](#) **

[Green Dates Calendar](#)

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You are receiving this email because you have been involved in an excursion, event or education activity with Rumbalara EEC.

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Gosford, NSW 2250
Australia

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