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Around the Schools - Spotlight on Gosford P.S

Gosford Public School is another Central Coast school with an outstanding kitchen garden program. Last term over 25 teachers attended a workshop at the school organised by Central Coast Health to learn about vegetable garden systems. The school runs both a student gardening session and a cooking session each Wednesday where students are involved in preparing and tasting a healthy garden meal, feeding the chickens, collecting eggs, cleaning the chicken cage and weeding and planting vegetables. There is also a large worm farm made from a recycled bath tub that composts food scraps from the playground. Once a week the worm wee is collected and sold to teachers or put on the garden for fertiliser. The school also encourages a waste free lunch every Wednesday and each week the winning class is able to host the specially made recycled trophy in their room. A student environment group meets once a week to plan activities and report on progress to the school assembly. For more information contact Belinda Wade, Gosford Public School.



Australian Association of Environmental Education



There's never been a better time to [join](#) the Australian Association of Environmental Education - Australia's peak professional body for Environmental and Sustainability Educators.

[Join now](#) and you'll receive 14 months membership for the price of 12, PLUS be eligible for our early bird and member discount to the upcoming [NSW Environmental Education Conference](#) in September, saving over \$140 on your conference ticket (if booked before 31 August).

AAEE individual membership is just \$105 per year, with concession and group rates available. **As a member you'll also receive:**

- Discounted conferences, events and exclusive offers;
- Tax-deductible membership;
- Access to NSW Chapter events, activities, communications and networking opportunities in your region;
- Professional development webinars;
- Australian Journal of Environmental Education;
- Monthly industry e-bulletins and quarterly ozEEnews member newsletter;
- A voice to State and Federal governments about your issues as educators;
- Resources to integrate sustainability into curriculum and programs and more.

So come and [join your fellow educators](#) from across the country who are working together to make Australia

more sustainable

NatureWatch diary

- **Birds are beginning to nest** and summer migrants are arriving from New Guinea- **Koels** and **Channel-billed cuckoos** will begin to calling loudly. Listen for the first call and let Rumbalara EEC know when they arrive. These birds are renowned for deceiving **magpies**, **currawongs** and **wattle birds by laying their eggs in their nest and resulting in other mums** taking care of their eggs and chicks.
- **Record your observations** of our changing seasons and help scientists to monitor our wildlife. The Climatewatch App is free and is being used to collect data that will help scientists to measure the impact of climate change on our wildlife. www.climatewatch.org.au/
- **OzAtlas** is another free App that not only lets you contribute your observations to a scientific data base but also provides instant access to information about all the wildlife in your area. www.ala.org.au/ is a wonderful resource for schools.

Join the cuckoo count!

Sign up your school and help track the annual migration of the world's largest cuckoo, the channel-billed cuckoo.



Wise About Waste Video Conference

Find out more about how to reduce waste at your school by connecting with other schools from our area in a video conference with Rumbalara EEC. Our guest school Potsville P.S (Northern Rivers NSW), will be sharing their waste free journey and explaining their 'Binless School' program that has significantly reduced waste and waste disposal costs

at the school. The video conference will include an explanation of how the system was implemented and some advice on overcoming barriers to implementation at your school. Lisa Wriley from the Kariong Eco garden will also be available to discuss a new Green Canteen opportunity for your school. Our planned date is 14th September at 3.30 but we are still awaiting confirmation. Please contact Rumbalara EECthe Centre if you would like to be involved.



Ph 0243247200 or email rumbalara-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Wild About Wetlands

New Wetlands Multi-Touch Books are now available for iPhone and iPad.

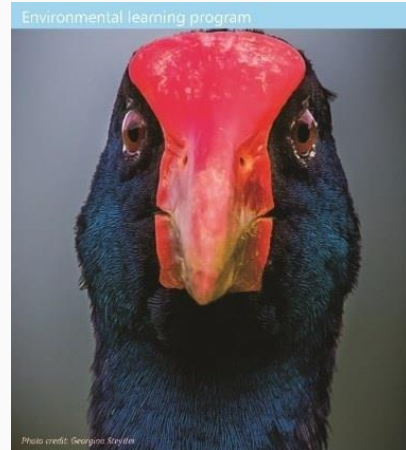
This amazing new resource for pre-schoolers, primary school students and educators is full of beautiful images, activities, videos and songs.

The content supports the NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum and the Early Years Learning Framework.

loveourlivinglakes.com.au



Download your FREE Copy today from the iBookstore - simply search for Central Coast Council.



SAVE THE DATE!

Future Council 2017

Future Council is a unique opportunity for **Stage 5 students** to experience the decision making role of elected representatives in the Local Council Chambers. **Central Coast Council** in partnership with **Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre** invites schools to enter a team of 4 potential civic leaders to participate in a Mock Council Meeting. The meeting's agendas will include a range of environmental and social issues relevant to our community.



There are two date options available to schools:

Northern Schools: Monday 30 October, 2017 Central Coast Council Chambers – 2 Hely St, Wyong.

Time: 8:30am arrival, 3pm finish

Southern Schools: Friday 3 November, 2017 Central Coast Council Chambers – 20 Mann St, Gosford.

Time: 8:30am arrival, 3pm finish

The aim of this program is to provide students with an understanding of local government processes and the role of our local Council in community decision making – with an environmental focus. The program also has strong links to the Australia Curriculum in the areas of Humanities and Social Sciences / Geography.

If you are interested in finding out more or your school participating - then email:

jane.smith27@det.nsw.edu.au



Schools Environment Program

Leadership Day

Tuesday October 10

Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park



Open to all Primary schools registered on the Schools Environment Program.

Registrations need to be at Council by **Wednesday, 30 August**..

Contact: Michelle.honeysett@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

AAEE NSW Green Schools Network

Update



NSW Environmental Education Conference - 27-29 Sept 2017, Riverview

A good place to have a conversation with you on the place teacher networks could have within Sustainable Schools NSW. Please encourage your school green teachers to attend, we have NESAA accreditation, many school focused presentations and workshops, check out www.nswconference.org.au/program-overview/ with field trips across Sydney and immersions across Riverview, a visit to the Nature Play space with the early learning children using the space, will be highlight. For those out of Sydney accommodation in the boarding house is very reasonable. www.nswconference.org.au/

Outdoor Classroom Day

September 9th organised by NaturePlay WA and coordinated in NSW by Sam Crosby at Centennial Parklands. <https://outdoorclassroomday.com/>

The Refresh Project - Go Green Challenge www.therefreshproject.com.au

Belinda Wilson-Chartres belinda@freshbusiness.com.au is looking to bring this existing program that has been running in South Australia to NSW and is happy to come to a network meeting to talk about the program.

For coordinators that work with non-government schools

IEU Environment Conference 2017: THINK - CONNECT - ACT

When – **Friday 20 October** Where – Mercure Sydney 818 – 820 George St Sydney

Organisations presenting workshops include WWF, NPWS, Mobile Muster, TerraCycle and the Botanic Gardens, amongst others.

<https://www.ieu.asn.au/news-publications/news/2017/july/ieu-environment-conference-2017-think-connect-act>

Update on Sustainable Schools NSW



Sustainable Schools NSW helps schools take a whole school approach to sustainability, implement their School Environmental Management Plan, network with their local community and nurture a generation of environmental leaders.

The Australian Association for Environmental Education NSW Chapter (AAEE NSW) is now managing Sustainable Schools. We want to help build stronger connections between schools and their community, including through our [Make the Change](#) project.

We will be asking members of Sustainable Schools in NSW what they want from the Program. Initially our work will start with establishing the website (which will be linked to the AAEE NSW website) and developing the next newsletter. Also, a professional development program for teachers will be held at the [NSW Environmental Education Conference](#), to be held in **Sydney 27-29 September**.

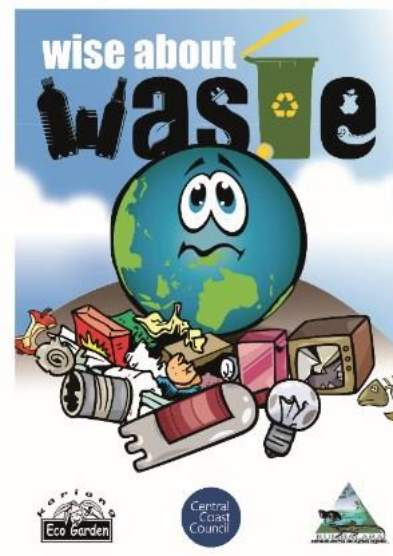
Grahame Collier, AAEE NSW President

WISE ABOUT WASTE SCHOOL Incursion

The Wise About Waste Program is a school incursion aimed at **Stage 2 students**. The program is funded by Central Coast Council and delivered in your school by educators from Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre for free.

With a suggested structure, the day starts with a 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 six different lessons/topics are:

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



To book, please download a registration form from the Rumbalara EEC website - www.rumbalara-e.schools.nsw.edu.au/programs/waste-wise-2016

OCCI Central Coast

FREE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES – Sept/Oct 17



Come and explore the rock pools with OCCI's expert guides and learn about the fascinating creatures that live there. We are also running a talk about 'binning little bits of rubbish too', at Heazlett park, Avoca Beach followed by a clean up, using kayaks to get to the debris on the waters edge. There is a maximum of 25 people per walk so bookings are essential.

For those who would like to hear more about the life in the rock pools, Kincumber library are hosting an afternoon session to do this too. Booking for this is on the library website.

Most suited to ages 5 years to adult. All children need to be accompanied by an adult on the walks and clean up and ALL participants are required to wear closed in shoes for protection, as well as sunscreen.

Dates:

Tuesday 26th Sept, 10-12 Clean up talk and kayak debris collection, Heazlett park, Avoca Beach

Thursday 28th, Sept, 1-3, Kincumber library (book through library)

Wednesday 4th Oct, 1pm. Rock pool walk Umina Beach South

Thursday 5th Oct, 1.45pm. Rock pool walk, Norah Head.

Friday 6th Oct, 2.30pm. Rock pool walk, Terrigal Haven

To book walks and cleanup, please phone or text Linda on 0404 450 429 or email:

lindaroberts4@bigpond.com

Sponsored by Central Coast Council

OCCI are also available to do walks and talks to schools during term time. To discuss your requirements please contact the secretary via the details above.

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