The purpose of the newsletter is to showcase environmental events in our region, promote good ideas and create a network of environmental educators. Please distribute this newsletter to all teachers interested in sustainability education.

GENERAL NEWS

Excursion subsidy available for visit to new water lab at Dorroughby EEC
The Water Lab sets the scene for real water science investigations with sophisticated equipment, open student led challenges and strong links to local water issues and sustainable water use. It is designed to meet the needs of the Science Syllabus e.g. inquiry based learning, science as a human endeavour and curriculum outcomes of Stage 3 & 4. Students work in collaborative research teams, using a Scientific Investigation Form to undertake Fair Tests, guiding them to make predictions and record their methods, observations and results.
Rous Water is offering a $100 Bus Subsidy to the first 10 Primary Schools and first 10 High Schools that book a visit to the Water Lab with 2 conditions. Firstly the students must complete the online survey before and after the visit and secondly the School must be connected the Rous Water supply.
Trips to the lab will be $2.50 per child (1/2 day) visit or combine it with field work at Dorroughby for $5.00 per student full day.

Have You Seen The Cuckoos?

It is National Science Week and the noisy channel-billed cuckoos are about to return to NSW and the Sydney region during their yearly migration. They return to disturb our serenity and lay their eggs in the nests of other unsuspecting birds like the Currawong. Scientists are predicting that our warming earth and changing climate will alter the migration patterns of these birds and we need help in tracking their movements.

We need you and your students to get outside and record any sightings.

Download this attached flyer and information to register your school: You can also register on the Climate Watch website www.climatewatch.org.au
**Dorroughby Arts Camp News**

Students from the Northern Rivers had a great time at the Performing and Visual Arts Camps at Dorroughby this month. Students learnt about the issues of water quality and waste and thought of creative ways to re-use it. This resulted in the making of an ‘oil memorial’ to remind us of how many items in our planet are made from oil and often end up as landfill. The performing arts camp made drums from recycled containers and participated in a drum workshop with percussionist ‘Philomena’. The camp also supported the theme of ‘Arts v’s Science which will be explored at the riverside festival this Sunday at Lismore’s riverside park. See the students work at the ‘Art in the Park’ schools competition site. Thanks to Rous Water and North East Waste for their contributions to the camp.

**EVENTS & ACTIONS**

**Arts vs Science Riverside Festival: Celebrating National Science Week with Creativity, Sustainability and Environment on August 24**

In the first of a series of events planned for the Northern Rivers Science Hub (of which Dorroughby EEC is a proud member), the Arts vs Science Riverside Festival links and engages the arts community in local science issues and helps the science community express themselves through the arts.

The festival program has something for everyone with workshops, performances, exhibitions, market stalls and displays running continuously throughout the day including 'Art in the Park', a Bright Ideas tent, interactive science/arts workshops, National Science Week Schools Art Competition, tree planting on the Wilsons riverbank and the music stage powered by the SCU Sunflower Solar Sound System.

**WHEN:** Sunday 24th August - from 10am until 4pm

**WHERE:** Riverside Park Lismore

**Sustainable House Expo and Open Homes**

**When:** Expo - Saturday, 13 September from 1 PM to 5 PM

**Where:** Bangalow A&I Hall, Station Street, Bangalow

Lismore City Council is partnering with Byron Shire Council, Rous Water, Byron Community College, North Coast TAFE, the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre and the Green Building Centre to host a Sustainable House Day Expo, Sustainable House Day open homes event and a Granny Flat Design Competition.

The Expo will include a sustainable housing products and services trade show and a display of entries in our Granny Flat Design Competition where students can win a cash prize.

**LISMORE SHOW**

It’s time to get your applications for the schools vegetable display at the show. Thanks to Pat Green from Goolmangar for all his efforts in promoting vegetable gardens in schools. Dorroughby hopes to enter some produce too!

**GRANTS**

**Yates Junior Landcare 'Winter Veggie Growing Journey**

Entries are now open - time to get snapping!

Now you can show off your gardening skills for our exciting celebrity judges! Take a photo (no bigger than 2MB) that includes your Yates competition planter stake, write a short story (maximum 50 words) and upload them together to the gallery.

We want to read the stories and see the photos of all the stages in your very own growing journey:

You can enter as many times as you like. And to keep the fun going, we’ll be awarding monthly prizes for the best entries, as well as prizes for the grand final winners in each category at the end of the competition which closes **27th September**.

Environment = Life
Rural Education Australia Program – REAPing Rewards
Funding up to $10,000 supporting locally-driven projects and programs that directly benefit children and youth (0-18 years) and their educators in rural and remote communities. **Closes 25 August 2014. Website:**