



From the principal's desk



As we approach the end of the term, I would like to remind all of our Year 12 students to remain vigilant in their studies to ensure they are fully prepared for the examinations, after the next school break. The HSC is only five weeks away and it is important to be revising and ensuring that you are prepared.

We have had a lot of work carried out over the last two weeks and C Block should be complete by the end of next week, allowing all of our staff to move over to one site. Next term the Ballina Island site will not be operational and all staff, other than learning hub staff, will be at East Ballina. This will be very beneficial, allowing us to meet and ensure that we function as a cohesive whole school, giving students the benefit of our full attention, best practise and efficient service.

We will make sure that pictures are included of C Block, on completion.

If you have any issues around your child's learning or suggestions as to how we can improve, please speak with one of our staff members and let us know.

Yours in education,
Danny Henman



Secondary news – Enrolment, Welfare and Aboriginal/Alternate Learning

Shocking News

Congratulations to James King from the Casino Learning Hub who has managed to secure an electrical apprenticeship with APRACS in Casino. James has been with Southern Cross School of Distance Education since Year 8 and has always been a great asset to the Hub. James will be sorely missed by all the Hub students, but our loss is Australia's gain. All the best James.



Skateboard project at Gurehlgam



"This is something different to normal schoolwork, a nice taste of doing a bit of woodwork. It goes just like a brand new skateboard bought at a shop." - Cade Ellem

Casino project

Vegetable Garden

Students at Casino project on Mondays and Tuesdays, have created a vegetable garden in some unused land around the Project. We have planted sunflower seeds, tomatoes, watermelons and snake beans. The hay, organised by our wonderful SLSO Jill Lyons, was kindly donated by the owners across the fence.



Chopping boards

On Thursdays and Fridays the students are working on making chopping boards, as part of the Project's extra-curricular activities. Under the watchful eye of SLSO John Dwyer, the students are designing and creating some beautiful boards.



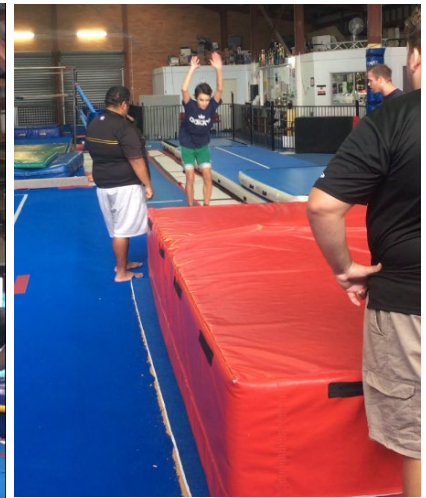
Ballina boys

Ballina boys have been constructing a garden, building garden beds, planting bush tucker and making a yarning circle.



Ngulingah boys

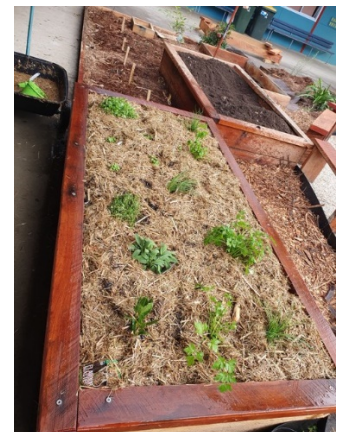
Ngulingah boys have been successfully engaged in the Gymnastics program at North Coast Gymnastics



Boys are feeling the Ashes cricket vibe.

Ballina girls program

In the Ballina girls program students have been experienced an Arawkwal cultural excursion to sacred women's places in Byron Bay. They have been tenpin bowling for SLR and an excursion to the Macadamia Castle for early childhood education. They have continued their art and gardening program in class.



Ballina girls gardening project



Ballina girls NADIOC banner



Ballina girls work experience

Shantelle Waters-Daly and Shekirra Bolt made an impressive effort undertaking work experience with the Elders from Yarrabee at Jali Land Council. All Elders were delighted with the girls, who are completing an extra day to work with Elders on a weekly basis. A great effort!



Secondary news – Japanese excursion

Japanese excursion to Brisbane

We offer distance education students a variety of opportunities. On Saturday 7 September, Years 9, 11 and 12 Japanese students travelled to Brisbane to learn more about Japanese food and culture.

Students came from far and wide to meet teachers in Ballina for a 7am departure. Some drove through bushfires at Tenterfield, others left Woolgoolga at 4am.

Our first stop was the Brisbane Botanic Gardens. Students engaged in a traditional tea ceremony in the Japanese gardens – learning about this centuries old ritual. Following tea, a calligraphy workshop saw students creating their own masterpieces.

Back on the bus, we went to Mt Gravatt Showgrounds for the Matsuri Brisbane Festival. Students watched traditional Japanese dance and music, including a Japanese taiko drum demonstration. There were also martial arts, traditional games, and arts and crafts displays. Students ate Japanese food such as okonomiyaki (Japanese pizza), takoyaki (Octopus balls) yakitori (chicken skewers) and bento boxes.

This immersion into Japanese culture helped further students' language skills. Meeting others studying via distance education opened up opportunities for collaboration. A great day was had by all! Thank you to Southern Cross Public School for donating the use of their bus for our trip.



Secondary news

Enrolment and Wellbeing

A big congratulations to Year 11 student Tilly Jones for securing one of the 2019 \$5000 Variety Heart Foundation Scholarships. Variety provides scholarships to children with an existing talent living with disabilities, chronic illness or financial hardship, to achieve their full potential and to follow their dreams. Tilly has exceptional musical ability and composes her own pieces with a focus on classical and jazz, in addition to playing the cello and piano. Tilly will use the scholarship funding to purchase new technology to support her composing software, and to help cover traveling costs to Canberra, so she can take part in an internship at the Australian War Memorial.

If you would like to be notified when the 2020 Variety Heart Scholarships round opens you can register your interest online at <https://www.variety.org.au/nsw/variety-heart-scholarships/>

The STEAM TEAM's first laser cutter workshop

Our school now has a laser cutting machine, an amazing piece of technology that uses a powerful laser beam to cut, etch and engrave a wide range of materials. It is accurate to roughly a third of the thickness of a human hair, so it is incredibly precise. It is a fast process.

On Wednesday of Week 3 in Term 4 (30 October) we are running a whole day practical workshop.

It is open to ALL students. The numbers are limited to 20, so be quick if you want to come along.

The workshop will be held in STEMLAB 5 on the SCSODE East Ballina Campus.

Contact Sam Nelson to reserve a place and he will send you a permission note to be returned on the day. Cost \$0. Bring your own food and drinks.

Sam Nelson can be contacted via email sam.nelson5@det.nsw.edu.au or phoned on 66810414

2019 Validation of Assessment for Learning & Individual Development (VALID)

The VALID8 test for Year 8 students will be held between **Monday 28 October** and **Friday 8 November 2019**. The test takes approximately 70 minutes. The VALID Science 8 test is an interactive, multimedia test completed entirely on a computer.

VALID Science 8 contains multiple choice, short response and extended response tasks that are grouped around real-world issues, including scientific investigations. This is a diagnostic test, with tasks framed on Stage 4 outcomes and essential content in the NSW Science Years K-10 Syllabus. Students will be tested on their:

- knowledge and understanding of science
- understanding and skills in the process of scientific investigation
- ability to evaluate evidence, make judgements and think critically
- ability to access information and communicate scientific ideas.

Students also complete a survey about their opinions, attitudes and values towards science.

Since students complete VALID Science 8 on a computer, each student needs to have access to the INTERNET and a suitable device, such as a laptop or desktop computer, or they will not be able to participate.

More information on the VALID Science 8 test will be delivered to parents and carers during October. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Matt Cartwright, Head Teacher Science matthew.cartwright@det.nsw.edu.au Phone: 6618 7617

School and community news



Southern Cross
School of Distance
Education

STEM WORKSHOP PART 5 ROBOT MUSCLES

Come join our STEM team for the fifth robotics and microbit workshop where we will **design, build, and test** our designs

STEMLAB 5
East Ballina Campus
Wed 25th September,
2019 9.30 - 3pm
BYO Recess and Lunch

Call Sam 66810414 to register your spot.

School and community news

Helping your child deal with unwanted contact online

By: Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner

September 02 2019



There are many benefits to socialising and playing games online — it can be entertaining and educational, while helping to build digital intelligence skills. However, games or apps with a chat function mean your child is likely to be communicating with others online, including strangers.

Our research shows it is more common than you think, with one in four young people being contacted by someone they don't know online.

Contact from strangers can make children feel uncomfortable or lead to dangerous situations like harassment or “grooming” — where a young person is lured into trusting a sexual predator online.

So just as we help guide young people to identify unsafe behaviour in the physical world, we need to do the same in their online world – for example, helping them to understand when it's not appropriate to chat to an adult without a parent around.

Conversation starters

Talking with your children about their ‘online friends’ can be a great way to help develop their skills around identifying and dealing with unwanted contact.

1. What do you think makes a good online friend?

Parents and carers can help young people recognise respectful, safe online relationships. Talk to your child about what good friends do, personal boundaries and safe behaviour. For example, a good online friend:

- would never send anything to shock you or make you feel icky
- would never ask you to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable
- understands when you need time away
- speaks to you with respect
- respects your feelings and is kind
- would never threaten you or ask you not to tell your parents
- listens when you say no or ask them not to do something.

Extend the conversation by talking about games and social media and what safe behaviour looks like in those spaces.

More advice at: www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/good-habits-start-young

2. How do you know if an online friendship has taken an unsafe turn?

Talk to your child about the signs that show an online friendship isn't safe. If anyone online — a friend or stranger — tries to develop a very close relationship quickly or asks for private photos or videos, they may intend to sexually abuse the young person.

Some other warning signs to look out for include:

- asking lots of personal questions
- giving excessive compliments
- wanting to keep the relationship secret
- sending gifts or money
- asking for nude photos or videos.

By helping your child recognise these typical grooming behaviours they can better protect themselves online.

More advice at: www.esafety.gov.au/parents/big-issues/unwanted-contact#warning-signs

3. Who would you talk to if you felt unsafe online?

Our research shows only 55% of young people sought help from a parent after a negative online experience. Your child may not tell you about a negative incident if they think they will be punished or have their device taken away. Instead, they may turn to friends, siblings or another trusted adult.

You can encourage your child to talk to you about an online issue by discussing:

- that you will be there to help protect and support them, no matter what
- your reaction – reassure them you will stay calm
- the actions you might take to support and help them feel safer
- the services available for counselling and further assistance.

You can also try talking through an online safety scenario with your child, sharing your feelings and the challenges of talking about this type of experience.

If your child is struggling to open up about an online issue, there are a range of support services that can help: www.esafety.gov.au/wellbeing-directory

Reporting unwanted contact online

It is important for parents to understand that the grooming and procuring children over the internet are crimes investigated by the police. If your child has encountered this kind of activity online, contact your local police station. If your child is in immediate danger call Triple Zero (000).

If your child receives suggestive comments, requests for explicit images or messages of a sexual nature on a social media site, app or game, it should be reported to the service. It is important to collect evidence first and then report the account even if you have blocked them — this helps makes the internet safer for everyone.

If an intimate or nude image of your child has been shared or is threatened to be shared online, report it to eSafety and we can help take it down: www.esafety.gov.au/IBA.

Your child may need your assistance to report a user. Use our games, apps and social networking guide to problem-solve together. Help them gather evidence, report the contact and block the user. Let your child lead the way and help them develop the skills to manage online challenges in the future.

School and community news



GOLD COAST DEFENCE FORCE RECRUITING INFORMATION SESSIONS

If you're up for the challenge and would like to find out more, come along to one of our upcoming information sessions:

2 Sep 19	6.00pm – 8.00pm	School to Service	DFRC Gold Coast
3 Sep 19	7.00pm – 9.00pm	Trade Careers	Lismore ARES Depot
4 Sep 19	10.00am – 12.00pm	Defence Careers	TAFE Lismore
4 Sep 19	2.00pm – 3.00pm	Defence Careers	TAFE Casino
5 Sep 19	10.00am – 11.00am	Defence Careers	TAFE Ballina
5 Sep 19	2.30pm – 3.30pm	Defence Careers	TAFE Kingscliff
10 Sep 19	7.00pm – 9.00pm	Australian Defence Force Academy	DFRC Gold Coast
12 Sep 19	6.00pm – 8.00pm	Women in Defence	DFRC Gold Coast
17 Sep 19	6.00pm – 8.00pm	A Night in the Army Reserves	Southport ARES Depot
25 Sep 19	6.00pm – 8.00pm	Defence Careers	DFRC Gold Coast
30 Sep 19	9.00am – 2.00pm	STEM Day	DFRC Gold Coast
30 Sep 19	8.00am – 2.00pm	Regional YOU Session	Inverell High School
1 Oct 19	8.00am – 2.00pm	Regional YOU Session	Grafton High School

Information sessions will take place at the following locations:

- Defence Force Recruiting Gold Coast: 14 Edgewater Court, Robina, QLD
- Lismore Army Reserves Depot, 108 Military Rd, Lismore, NSW
- Rm G1.03, Conway St, Lismore, NSW
- Rm LG.10, 144 Barker St, Casino, NSW
- Rm CG.03, 154 Burnet St, Ballina, NSW
- Rm A.G.05, 806 Cudgen Rd, Kingscliff, NSW
- Southport Army Reserves Depot, 42 Commercial Rd, Ashmore, QLD

REGISTER NOW



CALL 13 90 01 OR VISIT DEFENCEJOBS.GOV.AU



NAVY



ARMY



AIR FORCE

School and community news



DEFENCE FORCE RECRUITING STEM ACTIVITIES DAY

Considering a Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths career? Did you know the Navy, Army & Air Force have plenty of roles that need your STEM skills.

Right now we're recruiting for jobs that didn't even exist a few years ago such as piloting military drones and working in electronic warfare. In the future there'll be many more!

Come along to our STEM pathways activities day to learn more about these Defence opportunities. A STEM role in the ADF will see you working with some of the world's most advanced equipment, give you the chance to travel as well as provide nationally recognised skills. At the STEM Pathways Activities Day, you'll interact with current serving military personnel with backgrounds in trades and engineering whilst enjoying some practical learning activities.

When: Monday, 30th September 2019

Where: Defence Force Recruiting Centre, 14 Edgewater Court, Robina, QLD, 4226

Time: 9.30am – 2.00pm (9am arrival)

What's involved:

This event will include hands on activities including build a Lego Mind Storm Challenge & the opportunity to immerse yourself in our virtual reality experience.

Light lunch provided.

Who can attend?

High school students in years 10-12

Trade college students

Job seekers looking for new opportunities

RSVP:

rcr.mildcoast@dfcr.com.au with Name, Contact Number and Emergency Number

CALL 13 19 01 OR VISIT DEFENCEJOBS.GOV.AU

