



PENRITH

# SUSTAINABLE TIMES

## Schools Newsletter

### TERM 3 2017

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Bush Trackers,  
Sustainable Schools NSW  
HEEN network meetings,  
and more

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## Bush Trackers

As part of a grant funded rehabilitation project at Mountain View Reserve in Cranebrook, a group of enthusiastic students from the Lakes Christian College participated in a Bush Trackers event held by Penrith Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). The Bush Trackers program helps engage children and families in nature. The students were guided by Discovery Rangers on a bushwalk at the Reserve, enjoying nature play, learning about natural and cultural heritage and encouraging the kids to share their experience through words, poems, drawings and photos. These

drawings and words were then used to create a map and guide to encourage other kids and their families to safely enjoy the wonderful bush and wetland at Mountain View Reserve.

NPWS are looking for primary schools in the Penrith and Hawkesbury regions to participate in future Bush Trackers events. If you're interested please contact Jacqueline at NPWS on Jacqueline.Reid@environment.nsw.gov.au or 0419 307 099.

For copies of the Mountain View Reserve Bush Tracker map please contact daria.rech@penrith.city or visit the Bush Trackers website [bushtrackers.com.au](http://bushtrackers.com.au)



## Penrith Environmental Photo Comp

To celebrate Biodiversity Month and National Water Week 2017, it's time for our annual Environmental Photography Competition with the theme "Water – the heart of our Community". The competition opens on 13th September. All creative amateur photographers are encouraged to get outdoors, get snapping, and submit a photograph that inspires and captures the theme.



There are 3 categories:- Open (over 18 years), Youth (12 – 18 years) and Kids (under 12 years). The competition is open to all Penrith City residents and there is more than \$1300 in prizes to be won. To find out more visit [penrithcity.nsw.gov.au](http://penrithcity.nsw.gov.au). Terms and conditions apply.



## HEEN Network

HEEN is the Hawkesbury Environmental Educators Network. HEEN is a network for people who work with students and other young people in the Hawkesbury and Penrith regions, and have an interest in sustainability and the environment.

It provides an opportunity to network with other like minded people, get inspiration, hear about resources to help you, and learn about professional development opportunities.

## Stay in touch

There are numerous ways you can stay in touch with the HEEN network. To be added to our email contact list please email Andrew on [Andrew.hewson@penrith.city](mailto:Andrew.hewson@penrith.city). You can join our facebook page 'Hawkesbury Environmental Educators Network HEEN', and make sure you come along to one of our network meetings below - they're a great way to meet people face to face and connect with other like minded people.

## Upcoming meetings

### HEEN MEETINGS

Our meetings are a great way to connect with other teachers and share ideas and experiences. Meetings are usually 3.30pm to 5pm.

**THURSDAY  
7 SEP**

Windsor High School.  
Windsor High is a great suburban school with sustainability at heart. They can't wait to show off their goats, chooks and greenhouses. To RSVP please contact Kerrie Corr at Windsor High on [Kerrie.corr@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Kerrie.corr@det.nsw.edu.au)

**WEDNESDAY  
8 NOV**

Penrith Lakes Environmental Education Centre.

# Sustainable Schools NSW update



Developed in 2002, 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. And now after 15 years of managing Sustainable Schools, the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage is now handing management over to the Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE) NSW chapter.

The President of AAEE NSW, Grahame Collier states "AAEE NSW is excited about future management of Sustainable Schools NSW. Helping schools to take action for their local environment is important

to us. We want to help build stronger connections between schools and their community as well through our Make the Change project. AAEE NSW wants to build on the current program to make it even more useful for you, for your fellow teachers, for those you teach and within the community".

In the future they will be asking you what you want from Sustainable Schools in NSW. Initially their work will start with a professional development program for teachers at their biennial conference in September. Teachers will find this conference a great way to learn, connect and receive BOSTES accreditation, see: [nsweeconference.org.au](http://nsweeconference.org.au)

## Preserving goanna habitat

An area of Cumberland Plain Woodland in Freemans Reach was recently the focus of a Landcare event, to help restore the habitat there, once known for its goannas.

Located behind Hawkesbury High School and Freemans Reach Public School, Landcare at the site is a part of a broader environmental education focus of the High School, who are currently planning a bush tucker garden and are involved in the Kreative Koalas Program.

The Landcare event was coordinated by the Greater Sydney Landcare Network's Cumberland Plain Landcare Program and is planned to be replicated every school holidays. For more info or Landcare support please email: [landcare@hrcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landcare@hrcc.nsw.gov.au)

For more information go to [penrithcity.nsw.gov.au](http://penrithcity.nsw.gov.au) or phone 4732 8055