


Subject:	REEN Term 4 – Face to Face
Venue:	The Habitat - Santa Rosa Park, 249 Quarry Rd, Ryde NSW 2112
Date:	Wednesday 25 October 2023
Time:	04.00pm to 5.30pm
Chair:	Bonnie Mackenney and Michael McGorry

1.0	Meet, Greet, and refreshments – Tell us about the sustainability and environmental projects you and your school are currently working on
2.0	Tour of the Habitat Nursery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bev Debrincat gave us a tour of the Habitat Nursery • A brief overview of the history and how the nursery was started. The importance of habitat and nature corridors for biodiversity, native animals and small birds. • The habitat has 2 active native beehives, native plant propagation area, compost bins for community use, edible gardens and a native edible garden. • The garden is open to the public on Saturdays and Wednesdays and community are welcome to volunteer. • Native plants are sold to the public, and small quantities are provided for free to schools and bush care groups in the Ryde LGA. If you would like to request plants for your school contact the Habitat Nursery via email info@iewf.org  
3.0	Guest Speaker 1 – Maria Scuccuglia marta.scuccuglia@exchange4change.com.au <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return and Earn Schools' Participation Scheme - https://returnandearn.org.au/get-your-school-involved/ see attachment 2
4.0	Guest Speaker 2 – Margaret Mossakowska Moss house Education programs- http://www.mosshouse.com.au/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs can be tailored to suit any age group. • Incursions relating to your sustainability and environmental curriculum may be able to be funded through the REEN network, please contact bonniem@ryde.nsw.gov.au to express your interest, include group year, expected student numbers, and topic you are interested in hosting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margaret also has an active social media account Posting 4-5 times a week showcasing various activities including a documented processes and recipes related to homesteading skills. Instagram: http://www.instagram.com/mosshouseau Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/moss.house.au Sydney Edible Garden Trail – Gardens open on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 November, tickets available https://sydneyediblegardentrail.com/tickets/
5.0	<p>Eve Clarke – Health Promotion officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grants available for NSLHD Schools – School Gardens, Play Spaces and Active Travel – see attachment 3. Live lie well @ School Programs available – see attachment
6.0	<p>Environment and Sustainability;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Development Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Schools NSW – Free Online Professional Learning for teachers <i>Organic matters: School sustainability stories</i> Tuesday 31 October, 4.00 - 5.20pm via Zoom Teachers from 3 schools will share practical experiences about being resourceful with organic resources: collecting, composting and communicating with their schools. Register here for this free online PD session - https://events.humanitix.com/organic-matters-school-sustainability-stories This professional learning session is offered free thanks to the support of MidWaste. Sustainable Schools NSW is conducting research into how schools are addressing organic waste challenges and support that could improve their systems and processes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take the online survey open now until end October 2023. The survey takes 10 minutes to complete and you can enter the draw to win a <i>Love Food Hate Waste</i> prize pack. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/schoolorganics Online discussion forum via zoom on Thursday 2 November, 4 – 5.30pm. The forum provides an opportunity to connect with like minded educators, discuss practical solutions for tackling school organic waste, and let us know about support that could improve your practise. https://events.humanitix.com/organic-matters-school-sustainability-stories Lesson plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Recycling Week 13-19 November 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get involved in <i>Schools Recycle Right Challenge</i> 9 October 2023 – 17 November 2023 - https://recyclingnearyou.com.au/nationalrecyclingweek/at-school/ Lesson plan resources: https://recyclingnearyou.com.au/nationalrecyclingweek/at-school/lesson-plans Citizen Science Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CSIRO in collaboration with the Australian museum run a range of projects and curriculum development in STEM

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CREST E-Module – Curriculum development for teachers. https://www.csiro.au/en/education/Programs/CREST/Professional-learning-Introductory ▪ Virtual Tour of Australia museum - https://australian.museum/learn/teachers/classroom-activities/virtual-behind-the-scenes/ ▪ Eye on Water app and further resources available from the CSIRO including a chemical testing pack to explore the Forest Ule Scale. https://research.csiro.au/eyeonwater/ • Grant opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EPA litter prevention grant - projects such as increased waste infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Round 2 Applications Due 27 October ▪ Round 3 Applications Due 04 April 2024 ▪ Schools are eligible to apply for Stream 1 - Small-scale, on-ground projects ▪ Up to \$5000 funding ▪ https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/grants/litter-prevention-grants-program/grants-available ▪ Council has utilised this previously for solar powered 'big belly bins'. ○ Greening Australia Cooling the Schools program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schools are invited to register their interest by completing the form available via https://www.greeningaustralia.org.au/projects/cooling-the-schools/ ▪ Students learn first-hand about the environmental and cultural benefits of planting native trees for First Nations cultures, urban cooling and Biodiversity
7.0	<p>Council updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edible Gardens EOI for 2024 is now open <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The City of Ryde offers schools (Primary and Secondary) to be a part of the Edible Gardens project aimed at creating edible gardens within their school grounds. ○ Requirements - The successful school will be required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide a suitable space within their school grounds (minimum 2m x 2m space) ▪ A keen group of sustainability or environmentally conscious students (or be ready to set up a group) ▪ Be able to meet weekly or at a minimum fortnightly for 1 – 1.5 hours ▪ Champion teacher to lead and guide the student group through this project ○ The EOI application is available until Sunday 3 December 2023 on: https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Environment-and-Waste/Resources-for-Schools/Edible-Gardens-in-Schools The successful school will be notified in Term 1 2024. • Movember Events focused on Men's health including - being a dad, wellbeing and social isolation respectful relationships and community connection. Booking at https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/MOvember • Social Inclusion Week from 18 -26 November A range of events have been organised around this year's theme is Take Action Make Impact - inspiring people to stop thinking and start moving. Booking at https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Social-Inclusion-Week • School holiday programs – City of Ryde Libraries

- from **7 January 2024 – 25 January 2024 events include** Dr Enviro's Science Lab - discover the world of kitchen science, Milli and Mike's Recycling and Sustainability show, Engineers Without Borders – Renewable Energy workshops, and the Sustainability Families Festival 2024. Booking available for students on the upcoming events page <https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Listing> check back closer to the date.
- **Inaugural Youth Creative Competition** entries **closing 31 October**, so enter artwork or writing piece and share your creative story with the community.
 - Open to young people aged 12-24 years, get involved and you could be in the running to win part of a total prize pool of \$5,400.
 - Learn more & Enter <https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Community/Arts-and-Culture/Youth-Creative-Competition-2023>

Current council supported programs available to your school Terms 4, 1 and 2

- KABNSW Enviromentors program – to reserve your schools spot, please email or call Shani Patel - spatel@kabnsw.org.au, 8594 4076
- Scienza Viva - <https://www.scienzaviva.com.au/> if you are interested in environmental incursions please contact bonniem@ryde.nsw.gov.au Primary / High schools
- Australian Environmental Education School Incursions – Contact Karen Player for more information - karen.player@australianenvironmentaleducation.com.au

General Business

- Please complete the 2023 REEN survey - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/REEN2023>
- 2024 meeting dates to be confirmed