

Subject:	REEN Term 1 – Face to face
Venue:	Smalls Road Public School
Date:	Wednesday 5 March 2025
Time:	4.00pm to 5:30pm
Chair:	Kirra Hogg-Smith and Emily Quinn Smyth

1.0	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
2.0	<p>Guest Speaker 1 – Sally Giblin</p> <p>Be the Future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sally promoted her mission of taking dramatic action on our climate and biodiversity crisis. ○ She provided resources on 4 Topics; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore playful sustainability learning approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Awe-inspiring story telling through playful interactivity, curriculum aligned lessons – Powered by Steam, Collaboration with TIPIAC, Evidence based climate solutions and learning • Share Primary School Incursion Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Future makers workshops include; Wild at Heart, Spread Ha-pea-ness, Talking Trash, including 3 new workshops coming soon: Light Up the World, Move Lightly, Change your World. • Offer Complimentary experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scared Earth, Sustainable Futures: First Nations Climate Playhouse – experience at the Australian Museum during Climate Action Week 2025 • Play interactive floor games <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invented the teachers to play the games including; Grow plants with Bioelectricity ○ Reveal the vertical forest ○ Colour the community garden
3.0	<p>Guest Speaker 2- Camilla Driberg</p> <p>Parramatta River Catchment Group (PRCG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Slide Presentation about; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who and What is the PRCG? • Riverkeeper Program • First Nations peoples of the Parramatta River and surrounding region – Background research for the Designing with Country Project. • Designing with Country Framework – a collaboration with PRCG, Yerrabingin, local councils, Sydney Water and



community members to design framework that provides guidance/ recommendations on the use of design elements in a culturally sensitive and sustainable way.

- Waste wise messaging campaign; Cover it Up, Keep it Clear, Wash it Wisely, Leave only Paw Prints, Reduce your Rubbish.
- Iconic species campaign; Asked locals and residents of Parramatta River to name some of the iconic species that live along it – finalists were:
 - Bar-tailed godwit
 - Striped marsh frog
 - Eastern long-necked turtle
 - Southern myotis
 - Powerful Owl
- Special Inclusion since the comeback of this species is gaining – The Eel

Environment and Sustainability

- Professional Development Opportunities
 - Monash University Conceptual Play world – Teaching STEM through interactive play - <https://www.monash.edu/conceptual-playworld/educators/professional-development>
 - Online workshops designed to give you knowledge and skills in a range of sustainability topics - CERES School of Nature and Climate <https://school.ceres.org.au/professional-development/>
- Lesson plans
 - Fresh Food Kids Discovery Tour – Virtual reality tour for kids K-6 to learn how their produce ends up with them and in our local grocery stores <https://www.woolworths.com.au/shop/discover/fresh-food-kids/discoverytours>
 - Conservation Champions; For Teachers, By Teachers – free incursions available – Curriculum aligned with Science, Geo, Ag, catering to K-12. <https://conservationchampions.com.au/excursions-and-incursions/>
 - Hands on Horticulture, Science based experiences exploring fruit growth – K-6 aimed: https://primezone.edu.au/resource/hands-on-horticulture/?mc_cid=85b899557f&mc_eid=a4cc5f0019&mc_cid=d5f4c7a8a7&mc_eid=0f30405f61
 - Show Study: *The Deep* TV animated series lesson for yrs 3-6 to learn about the ocean, habitats and creative writing. <https://www.sea.museum/en/resource/the-deep-learning-resource>
- Competitions
 - Envirothon: Competition for environmentally aware Yr 10 & 11 students. To register a team or to find out more information please contact Awabakal Environmental Education Centre on Awabakal-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au
 - Science and Engineering Challenge – National STEM outreach program. <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/college/engineering-science-environment/education/science-and-engineering-challenge>

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- 2025 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge
<https://online.education.nsw.gov.au/prc/home.html>

- Citizen Science Programs

- Understanding the "Litter Bird-en"
Federation University is [calling on citizen scientists](#) to photograph any bird-litter interactions they encounter - entanglement, ingestion, using as nesting materials. Be a citizen scientist, upload your photos and geographic information to the [Birds and Debris website](#). Keep an eye out for crows unzipping school bags to enjoy recess.

Upcoming Events

- National Tree Day: **Schools Tree Day 25 July 2025**
This event is an opportunity for students, teachers and the wider school community to come together in support of our natural environment. Check out the [2025 Tree Planting Guide](#)
- Grant opportunities
 - **Real School Grants Program**
Up to AUD \$5000- one school and/or school group/committee
Must align to one or more values: Health, Learning and Development, Information and Technology or Community and Infrastructure
<https://www.realinsurance.com.au/grants/school-grant>
 - **Bunnings Hands on Support and DIY Workshops**
Hands-on assistance with grassroots projects like assisting with garden makeovers and providing DIY support - <https://www.bunnings.com.au/about-us/in-our-community>
 - **Australian Science Teachers Association Grants for National Science Week**
Open March 2025 - <https://asta.edu.au/programs/national-programs/national-science-week/school-grants/>

Council updates and General Business

- Community workshops
 - **Putney Beach Officially Launched**
Wednesday 22 January, Website + Photos:
<https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Recreation/Parks-and-Sportsgrounds/Find-a-Park-or-Sportsground/Putney-Park/Putney-Beach-Swim-Site>
 - **City of Ryde Harmony Day 2025: A Celebration of Cultural Diversity**
<https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Listing/Eventbrite/City-of-Ryde-Harmony-Day-2025-A-Celebration-of-Cultural-Diversity-1200612798199>
 - **Kids Giving Back**
The Youth Changemakers Program connects young people aged 14 to 18 years with a diverse range of volunteering opportunities. Service hours can be used towards Duke of Edinburgh, Service Learning and IB students.
To sign up for the program, have a parent complete a Parental Consent Form and then provide your details at the following link <https://app.helperhelper.com/signup/918link>.
<https://kidsgivingback.org/youth-changemakers/>
 - Anzac Day – Friday 25 April 9am to 10am

- **Easy Care Gardening**
Easy Care Gardening unites volunteers with older people in our community to provide gardening assistance, helping them to remain living independently in their own homes. Volunteering is open to everyone over the age of 16, or 14 if you sign up with a parent or guardian.
To become a volunteer please email volunteering@easycaregardening.org.au.
<https://easycaregardening.org.au/volunteer-with-us/>
- SWAP – Frist Workshops in April School holidays, entries open April 1
- Youth Week – April
<https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Youth-Week>
- **Reusable Personal Care Products**
8 March, 10am to 11am
<https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Listing/Eventbrite/Reusable-Personal-Care-Products-Workshop-City-of-Ryde-residents-only-1158442275029>
- **Composting**
8 March 2025 10am-12pm
https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Listing/Bookable/Composting-Workshop-ev_cc4c93027af54c99be4fd023dceb60bd
- **Reusable Personal Care Products**
10 April, 6:30pm -7:30pm
<https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Listing/Eventbrite/Reusable-Personal-Care-Products-Workshop-NSW-Youth-Week-1218716085619>
- **Sustainable Pools Workshop**
25 March, 5:30pm – 7pm
[Sustainable Pools Workshop | City of Ryde](#)
- **Infocus: Understanding your Energy bill**
27 March, 10:30am to 12pm
[Infocus: Understanding your energy bill | City of Ryde](#)
- **Current available incursions**
 - Keep Australia Beautiful NSW EnviroMentors
If interested contact Shani Patel spatel@kabnsw.org.au