



Kimberley Schools Wrap

Volume 6, Issue 3

Term 3, 2017

Term 4 dates

- 1/9-31/10 [Great Northern Clean Up](#)
- 14-15/10 [Tangaroa Blue WA Beach Clean Up](#)
- 18/10 [National Ride2Work Day](#)
- 23-29/10 National Bird Week ([Aussie Backyard Bird Count](#))
- 21/11 [World Fisheries Day](#)
- 5/12 [International Volunteer Day](#)



Cadets tried their hand at bush dyeing to create their own unique camp shirt using a 'bundling' technique

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Windjana Gorge camp a winner

Bush Ranger cadets and instructors from Broome, Fitzroy Crossing, Kalumburu and Wyndham met at Bandilgan Windjana Gorge National Park at the end for August for their sixth annual 'Region Camp.'

Highlights of the week included day trips to Bell Gorge and Tunnel Creek, as well as testing out Kalumburu Remote Community School's 'fat bikes'.

Cadets were split into teams with *Bush Rangers* from other schools for the duration of the camp, with many new friendships forged along the way.

Evening activities included an introduction to tour-guiding with APT tour guide George, a camp quiz night and a game of spotlight to round out the camp. Cadets also took part in a 'Trangia Dessert Masterchef', serving up a number of innovative creations cooked on the small methylated-spirit fuelled hiking stoves. The winning dessert was a 'S'mores dessert wrap', created by cadets from Fitzroy Valley District High School.

It wasn't all fun and games, the boys spent a morning weeding and maintaining walk trails along the gorge with the Bunuba Rangers, while the girls assisted Windjana Gorge ranger Erin Davis in conducting her twice-weekly visitor checks and clean up at Dimalurru Tunnel Creek National Park.

Cadets further developed their *Bush Ranger* skills through a first aid skills session, vegetation transect workshop, and with each cadet unit taking responsibility for cooking dinner for the whole camp for one evening each.

The next 'Region Camp' won't be held until 2018, as they will now only be held every second year, but there will be other opportunities for cadet units to get together that will be discussed at the next regional event, the 2018 Kimberley *Bush Rangers* Conference in Broome in February.

To see photos of some of the activities cadets enjoyed on camp, turn to page 3.



Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions





School holiday fun



Storytelling through pictures at Windjana Gorge



Whale watching off Broome



Learning about Broome's dinosaurs

The Parks and Wildlife Service's Kimberley inaugural school holiday program at Windjana Gorge saw visitors from Australia and overseas participate in two days of fun activities, including a biodiversity treasure hunt through the gorge. Meanwhile in Broome, hundreds of people took part in a huge program of activities including sand sculpting, dinosaur tracks, wildlife carers, mangrove walks, Plastic Free July and Yawuru story telling. The ever-popular Broome Whale Watching kids' tour went ahead after two unsuccessful starts due to poor sea conditions. It was a magical morning at Gantheume Point, with a thick sea mist blanketing the boats on their moorings, but it quickly lifted and turned into a beautiful clear and calm day. Kids enjoyed seeing whales and calves spy hop, tail slap, breach and spout. Get on the mailing list to secure your free spot for next year! These October holidays, The Parks and Wildlife Service's Kimberley education team will be back over in the East Kimberley, with activities in Kununurra and Wyndham during the second week of the break, followed by a community toad muster in Kununurra on the final weekend. Contact [Dee](#) to get involved.

Out and about

Schools around the Kimberley celebrated National Science week from 12-20 August, with The Parks and Wildlife Service's Kimberley education team happy to help out. In Broome, Dee was at St. Mary's teaching the high schoolers about cane toads, while Sally was in Wyndham spreading the cane toad

message in the east Kimberley.

Jesse and Dee were impressed by the knowledge of Year 4 and 5 students when they visited Cable Beach Primary to talk about marine turtles. The students had done a huge unit of work, looking at the biology and threats to marine turtles. To put what they have learnt into practice, they are about to start designing a way to protect turtle nests on the beach from predators and people driving on the dunes. We can't wait to see their ideas.

The first ever Sustainability cluster muster was held in Broome at the Mangrove Hotel, bringing together educators interested in sustainability to share support, ideas and resources. Find them on Facebook, [Growing Green Minds](#), for more information.



Cable Beach students had the opportunity to look at turtle shells up close and learn about different types of marine turtles found in the Kimberley

Cane toad update



All toads need to be alive and unharmed when placed in the collection box

Wanted: Toads for sausages

The Parks and Wildlife Service at the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions is seeking large numbers of cane toads for a taste aversion program, which aims to help species such as northern quolls and goannas learn to associate the smell and taste of toads with not feeling well and avoid them in the future. We are calling East Kimberley residents to start collecting as many live cane toads as possible, to be dropped off in the collection box outside the Kununurra office.



Bush Rangers and River Rangers

A photo journal of the 2017 Kimberley Bush Rangers Region Camp



Top left: Bush Rangers from four schools attended the camp; Top right: Boiling up some bush dye; Middle left: Keeping cool with camp games; Middle right: Testing out Kalumburu's fat bikes; Bottom left: Soccer in afternoon free time; Bottom right; KY teaches the basics of boab carving



Waste Wise Schools Corner



How to.... make reusable produce bags



Reusable shopping bags are easy to come by these days, but what do you put your fruit and veggies in? Recycle old curtains or tulle to [make produce bags](#) that are light enough to not add to the weight of items on the scales, but are sturdy enough to be used again and again.

1. Cut your fabric into the size and shape you want your bags. Make one long rectangle (eg 25cm x 50cm) to fold in half so there's less cutting and sewing.
2. Lie your draw string along the top of the long end of the fabric, fold down the fabric a couple of centimetres. Pin in place, then sew the material over the string.
3. Sew along the other two edges, be careful to stop at the top where your drawstring comes out.
4. Put your fruit and veggies in it next time you shop!

Broome North's community focus



A book swap and seating area make the community garden an inviting place to spend time

The Broome North Community Garden, an initiative of not-for-profit group Incredible Edible, is looking amazing! Broome North Primary School have four large garden beds are producing lots of capsicums, kale and hundreds of delicious cherry tomatoes! Some of the Waste Wise funding will hopefully be used to develop a composting system and worm farm to reuse the waste from school lunches to help the garden grow.

The Broome North kindy kids conducted a waste audit at their school at the end of last term, noticing lots of sandwich scraps, whole fruits and snap lock bags going in the rubbish every day. In response to their findings, the school held a hugely successful waste free lunch day and have plans to make it a regular event.



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An interview with... Tabitha Evans

Tabitha is a Bush Ranger cadet and Year 11 student at Kalumburu Remote Community School. She recently attended the 2017 Bush Rangers Region Camp at Windjana Gorge and took time out to share her camp experience with us.



Tabitha back home in Kalumburu

Tell us about a typical day on camp. The camp was good because it was big enough to see other kids from other schools. It was fun to meet new friends and work, eat and play with them each day. In the afternoon we had to have a bit of a break because it was so hot and we played a game that cooled us down.

What's your favourite thing you did on camp? My favourite thing was working around the national park at Windjana Gorge investigating different plants and looking for animals.

What was most challenging? I was really looking forward to going on this trip but the most challenging thing was traveling so far from home. I had no idea what was going to happen, but I just introduced myself to the group and then we all began the activities.

What is the best part of being a bush ranger in the Kimberley? Learning about being connected to country, visiting national parks and other remote communities of the Kimberley.

What do you want to do when you finish school? I want to be a ranger like my dad, working on country and looking after sacred areas. I look forward to meeting new people and making new friends.

What three things would you want when stranded on a desert island? If I was stranded on a desert island, I would want: 1) A shovel to dig a hole for water; 2) Enough wood to make sure I could make a spear for hunting food and a sign saying 'HELP ME'; 3) A nice place to sleep and rest.

