



Kimberley Schools Wrap

Volume 7, Issue 5

2019

2020 Dates

- 21-23/1 Catchments Corridors and Coasts 2020
- 28-31/1 The Great Kimberley Cane Toad Muster
- 13-16/2 Kimberley Sustainable Schools and Bush Ranger Cadet Instructor Conference KUNUNURRA
- 21/3 Harmony Day
- 22/3 World Water Day
- 26-27/3 State Conference Bush Ranger Cadet Instructors PERTH
- 22/4 Earth Day
- 22/5 International Day of Biological Diversity
- 26/5 National Sorry Day
- 27/5-3/6 National Reconciliation Week
- 5/6 World Environment Day
- 8/6 World Oceans Day
- 12-16/7 Millstream Reward Camp
- 15-18/9 Ningaloo Adventure Reward Camp
- 12-16/7 OR 21-25/9 Shark Bay Reward Camp
- 9-15/11 National Recycle Week
- 21/11 Bushfire Teacher PL Workshop



DBCA staff and Bush Ranger cadets take a break after hiking to the top of Kelly's Knob

Kimberley Regional Camp

This August 50 Kimberley Bush Ranger cadets and leaders embarked on a journey from One Arm Point, Kalumburu, Halls Creek and Wyndham to attend the Regional Camp held at Maka's Go Wild Adventures 35km south east of Kununurra on the Murchison River.

The Bush Ranger Cadet Regional Camp was an opportunity for cadets from across the Kimberley to come together to hone their bush craft survival skills and put into practice the cadet values including; working as a team, caring for the environment, challenging themselves and supporting each other. Over 4 days cadets participated in morning drill, fire-preparedness team challenges, cane toad bust, archery, low ropes course, bush walks, abseiling, horse riding,

fat bike adventures and canoeing.

Each day the cadets and leaders voted for the people in their group who had represented the Bush Ranger cadet values or helped out around camp. These achievements were celebrated at the end of camp awards night. Lots of great friends were made and cadets were brimming with tired smiles by the end of camp.

Kimberley Sustainable Schools and Bush Ranger Conference

13 to 16 February 2020

Join other teachers and Bush Ranger Cadet leaders in Kununurra to complete your open water Bronze Medallion course and find out about new sustainable education resources.

Register with Sarah.mullineux@dbca.wa.gov.au

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School Education Programs

The Shorebird Quest

The year kicked off in an exciting way with the spectacular theatre experience of the Shorebird Quest in Broome. Multiple organisations and talented people came together with local students to write, perform and create the puppets for the play which was held at Town Beach. The show celebrated the migratory shorebirds of Roebuck Bay. This gave the Yawuru rangers and the community education team the opportunity to visit Broome schools to discuss the importance of protecting shorebirds in Yawuru Nagulagun / Roebuck Bay Marine Park.



Shorebird puppets lit up the mudflats along Roebuck Bay.

NAIDOC Week

As NAIDOC Week kicked off in July, schools were offered bush tucker walk excursions through Minyirr Park, guided by a Yawuru ranger. These walks emphasised the importance of conservation as well as the cultural significance of *mayi* (bush tucker) to Aboriginal people.



Yawuru Ranger Preston Manado loved showing kids the different types of *mayi* in Minyirr Park.



Kids at Fitzroy Valley District High School collect boab nuts for NAIDOC Week activities.



**VOICE
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TRUTH**

07 - 14 JULY 2019

Let's work together
for a shared future.

Broome Careers Expo



It was great to see how many passionate students were interested in a career in conservation.

The Broome Careers Week Expo was held in May at Broome Senior High School. Parks and Wildlife Service staff showcased some of the exciting things happening within the department and students loved learning about the unique and interesting flora and fauna we have in the Kimberley.



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Waste Wise Program



St Mary's student shows off the exciting new chicken coop.

Jen from Waste Wise Schools will be coming up at the start of Term 1 for anyone interested in learning about Waste Wise Schools and funding available to set up waste reduction initiatives in your school.

With thanks to donations from Broome Builders and funding from Waste Wise Schools, St Mary's in Broome were able to build a fantastic chicken coop for their chickens to enjoy. The eight chickens are part of their waste reduction initiative, and produce eggs for the school canteen as well as eating much of the school's food waste.

In other exciting news, the St Mary's breakfast club has become completely waste free and they are currently applying for the next Waste Wise Schools grant to secure some more funding to reduce waste in the canteen.

BE CROCWISE CAMPAIGN

It was another big year for the Be Crocwise campaign with more than 20 incursions run with Kimberley schools, engaging with around 350 students. Students learnt how to be safe in croc country by understanding what makes crocs so deadly, the differences between saltwater and freshwater crocodiles, and most importantly, personal safety. Some students were even able to meet a real-life baby saltwater croc at the end of the session!

BE CROCWISE 



Cane Toad update

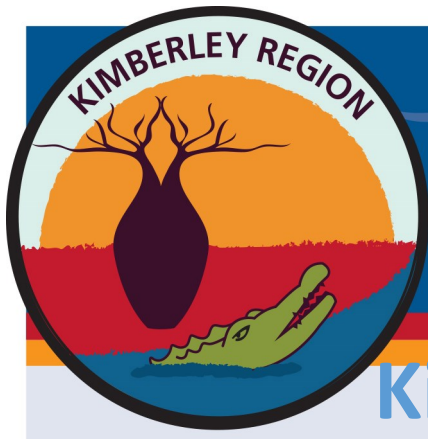
Cane toads have reached the Fitzroy River at Fitzroy Crossing, and are still heading west. The cane toad team are busy trying to collect thousands of toads to be made into sausages for Conditioned Taste Aversion therapy (teaching animals to avoid eating toads through a bad experience) where sausages are dropped in the landscape at the very frontline of cane toad invasion in areas of known northern quoll populations.

The Great Kimberley Toad Muster will be travelling through from Fitzroy Crossing, to Kununurra via the Gibb River Road in late January just before schools go back, looking to recruit toad busters for the night. Please help by spreading the word and coming along on the night if you can. Fitzroy Crossing 28 Jan, Mount Barnett 29 Jan, Wyndham 30 Jan and Kununurra 31 Jan.



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Kimberley Bush Ranger Units

featuring..

Beagle Bay Bush Rangers



KEEN OBSERVERS

Cadets from Beagle Bay Rangers Camp built a 'wall trap' with the Nyul Nyul Rangers and left it overnight to get a 'diary' of which animals and insects are living in the area.

Fitzroy Valley District HS Bush Rangers



LEARNING CULTURE Teaming up with the Bunuba Rangers at *Bulurrlu* Wire spring where students learnt the cultural significance of the site.

Broome Senior HS Bush Rangers



STATE FINALISTS

Congratulations to the Broome Senior High School Bush Ranger cadets who have been chosen as State finalists in the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards for Environmental Education. The cadets have been recording marine debris and cleaning up every time they are out on country on camps and other environmental activities.

Halls Creek District HS Bush Rangers



GOOD CITIZENS

The Halls Creek Bush Ranger cadets cleaning up country, practicing drill at regional camp and boys bonding at the start of the year.



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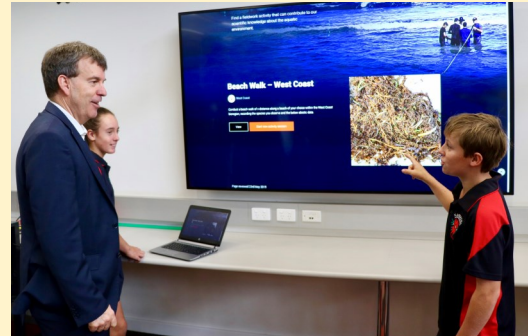
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Testing the new 'Marine Waters'

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's Marine Waters website has been revamped, redeveloped and relaunched. Marine Waters, the interactive online resource, includes a wide range of lessons, fact sheets, posters, videos and other educational resources specific to Western Australia's unique aquatic environment.

The revamp has enhanced the functionality of the website, which now has improved access and resources for students and the wider community, as well as teachers, plus the opportunity to participate in both field-based and classroom teaching-learning programs. The aim of Marine Waters is to provide a range of experiences that will develop knowledge, awareness, skills and attitudes that lead to sustainable behaviours in our marine environment. This greater understanding and awareness, will enable better decision making and consideration of impacts of actions on the coastal and marine environment.

The revamp of the Marine Waters website was made possible through a \$300,000 sponsorship agreement with Woodside Energy. The launch was at Karratha SHS. Development of more resources are in the pipeline and additional support for teachers through professional learning workshops in the near future.



Minister Dave Kelly and Karratha SHS students



Jessamy Bennett demonstrating a fish dissection to Karratha SHS students

Contacts

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CANE TOAD BUST!



Bush Ranger Cadets at this year's Kimberley regional camp spent a night busting toads! This activity helped students to distinguish features of a cane toad and toads collected in the bust will be made into sausages for Conditioned Taste Aversion therapy (see Cane Toad update on page 4)



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