

Term 3 Flexi Learning Centre Newsletter 2023

St Marys Flexi Learning Centre
Wollongong Flexi Learning Centre
St Laurence Flexi Learning Centre, Newcastle
Pambula Beach Flexi Learning Centre
Eastern Flexi Network Office, Wollongong



Eastern Flexi Schools Network

Flexible Learning Centres provide a place and an opportunity for young people to engage with learning and community.

Flexible Learning Centres operate on a common ground basis where young people are empowered to determine their own pathways.

Contents:

What's been happening....

What's coming up.....

Network News.....

Good News Stories.....



National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence - Fri 18th August 2023

The NDA is Australia's key bullying prevention initiative for schools, encouraging whole-school communities to work together to implement evidence-informed positive and proactive solutions to prevent and address bullying. This initiative aims to bring school communities together in an attempt to find workable and real solutions that address and eradicate bullying and violence.



On the first Sunday in August, National Friendship Day encourages people across the country and world to connect with friends. Make a new friend or reconnect with an old one. With each new friend, we expand our view of the world.



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Visit our website;

<https://www.ereafsn.edu.au/eastern-flexi-schools-network/>

St Marys FLC

Last Term.....

Our highlights from last term included;

"Girls can do"

Girls Can do program was a fun filled packed week long program where our female young people were given the opportunity to explore several traditionally male-dominated trades including plumbing, construction, electrical and automotive. Each day the girls tried their hand at a different trade and on the last day attended a well deserved graduation at the Granville TAFE campus.

'Build a table' for the community

Materials were supplied and our young people worked together to successfully assemble picnic tables, which will be placed within the community for the public to use. A plaque has been attached with our school name on it and a ceremony will be taking place next term. An awesome example of working collaboratively. Well done all.

Plumbing and Carpentry Taster

Several young people attended a two day workshop, where they tried their hands at plumbing and carpentry. Our young people thoroughly enjoyed the hands on experience and were extremely engaged, which looks positive for future pathways.

Other highlights included several of our young people achieving their white card and others attending the start of the Work Readiness Program as part of their job hunting journey.

Coming up in Term 3.....

In term 3 we will be looking forward to more young people participating in their white card course.

We also have a new five-week work readiness program which covers, their Job Hunting Journey, Resume and Cover Letters, Interview Skills, Apprenticeships & Traineeships and Appropriate Work-place Behaviour.

We are also looking forward to attending a match at the Sydney stadium for the Women's World Cup.

A NEW TERM

What's been happening so far.....



Good News Stories from StMFLC.....

Last term we had amazing success with several of our young people attaining their first part-time jobs. What a fabulous achievement! We are all super proud of them.



Wollongong FLC

Last Term.....

Term two was super successful at Wollongong FLC with increases in young people enrolments, attendance, and engagement.

Some of the pathway's highlights included the RYDA Driver Safety Program Day, Working Ports & Steelworks Tour days and the Skills and Thrills Expo.

Our Friday sporting outings were a big hit with great adventures had Abseiling, Fishing, Bushwalking and on our end of term Games and our Sports Day, which included the extremely popular "Uber eats Flexi Day" where our young people were able to choose their individual faves for lunch.

Coming up in Term 3.....

Coming next term for Friday sports days is NRL Training Day with the St George Illawarra Dragons, Archery and the annual Flexi grudge match with St Marys Flexi joining Wollongong Flexi for a day of sports and competition.

This term will also see the start of our Pathways Tuesday's where our young people will be given the opportunity to engage in a range of activities designed to not only broaden minds about what they may want to do after leaving the Flexi but also provide training opportunities and certification.

This term's Pathway's Tuesdays will include Dress for Success for our girls, a RIEP sponsored Dairy Farm tour day as well as White Card and First Aid certification days.

One of the most exciting days this term is sure to be the Flexi Fun Day on Aug 4th.

WFLC will be welcoming musical artists NTER and Calcite to perform as well as members of the Illawarra Hawks for a day of fun, games, food, and music.

A NEW TERM

What's been happening so far.....



Good News Stories from WLGFLC.....

WFLC's youngest class, Duruga implemented two MASSIVE challenges this term with successful completion resulting in huge prizes.

The "Phone Free Zone" where young people were encouraged to place their phones out of site for two out of three sessions every day of term and the "80% attendance challenge" where young people had to attend 80% or above of engagement days.

At the end of ten long weeks in Duruga, there were two young people who successfully completed BOTH challenges with one managing an enormous 90% attendance.

Good work leading the change, Duruga!



Pambula Beach FLC

Last Term.....

We kicked off Term 2 with an incredible opportunity to participate in the Eden Canoe Project. We handcrafted four new canoes, and enhanced our connections with the local community by observing, listening, and learning alongside local Indigenous leaders. With an added layer of appreciation, young people paddled our new boats to explore the Pambula River, Merimbula and Wallagoot Lake.

Several YP displayed courage this term when having a go at work experience. These were valuable steps to take as our young people developed ties with the broader community and practised skills necessary for employment. We also saw 12 YP complete White Card Training.

We were excited to see our school community embrace the chance to develop their photography skills. It was impressive seeing their readiness to learn new lingo such as aperture, rule of thirds, and depth of field while experimenting with new photography techniques. School pup, Bunyah Nut was popular in many of our photos as well as the stunning bushland that surrounds our classrooms.

There was a particular focus in sharing good food with even better company. We began each week with our Monday breakfast, delighted in the new Taco Tuesday Feast (thanks to Shell & Mumma Ti!) and turned the heat up in bush cooking. The team shared many moments tending to our bush oven and reaping the rewards.

We closed the term by cooking up the fish that we caught during our many fishing adventures. They were delish! Term 2 saw the school grow in numbers, a diverse array of pathway activities and consistent participation in class and in the bush. We can't wait to see what Term 3 brings!

Coming up in Term 3.....

Coming up, we have community breakfasts, Bega Indoor Sports Stadium, VET, Art, Photography, outdoor education and Wellbeing classes will be part of our weekly routine. Additionally, we will be joining in with Eden Community College's Gaming Project, where Young People will learn coding, gaming creativity and story writing. Beyond the classroom, young people will have the opportunity to improve their cooking, mountain bike and learn to snowboard!

A NEW TERM

What's been happening
so far.....



Good News Stories from PBFLC.....

We are in awe of the collective effort of PBFLC Young People as they crafted four new canoes in only five days!

With guidance from the Eden Canoe Project, many members of our community contributed to the process. Whether it be sawing timber, hammering nails, spreading epoxy or carefully painting – there was a task for everyone.



Connecting with community..

Regional Industry Education Partnerships Program (RIEP)

An initiative of the NSW Government



Our Flexi's continue to collaborate with the RIEP program, bringing together some amazing opportunities for our young people - with even more to come! These include career expos, mock interviews, industry tours, industry partner school visits, skills acquisition workshops, work experience, webinars, work placements and job readiness/employability sessions. The RIEP program have assisted our young people in connecting with industry to learn about career and employment pathways.

If you have any amazing ideas, or are interested in any programs listed below - Please reach out to your Transitional Support Worker or Head of Campus.

Upcoming in Term 3 and in development for 2023 across NSW

- Silverdale Industry Tour, Equine Careers in Thoroughbred Breeding (10th August)
- Illawarra / 5th September Shoalhaven)
- Gumaraa On-Country Experience, Killalea State Park (August 11th & November 24th)
- Hair, Beauty & Barbering Taster @ South Coast Academy (August & Sept)
- Work Readiness Programme in Early Childhood, Age Care and Disability Careers (T3/T4)
- Dairy Farmers NSW Tours (Dairy Industry Tours in T3/T4 to dairies in Camden, Kiama & Nowra)
- Guide Dog Ambassador Visits (In development late 2023/2024)
- Renewable Energy Careers (In development for late 2023/2024)



Ongoing Activities that may be of interest (if keen, speak to your TSW or HOC)..

- Street Artist Career Workshops (Dates negotiable)
- Hospitality Experiences (Novotel Wollongong, Mercure Gerringong & Peppers Manor House)
- BlueScope Steel Industry Tours - New STEM focused tour coming soon
- MyneSight Immersive Mining Experience Workshop (Friday's only dates pending trainer availabilities)
- Media for Millennials Workshops (Content Creation - Social Media)
- KJ Scaffolding Mini Workshops
- Cyber Security Ambassador Programme
- ANSTO Meet a Science Expert
- Cyber Security Careers - Ambassador Program
- ANSTO Meet a Science Expert





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Policies and Procedures

Our Flexible Learning Centre has a number of policy and procedures outlining why and how we will respond to a variety of situations. Many of these documents are publicly available on our website:

St Marys FLC <https://www.ereafsn.edu.au/st-marys-flc-documents-policies-reports/>

Wollongong FLC <https://www.ereafsn.edu.au/wollongong-flc-3/>

St Laurence FLC <https://www.ereafsn.edu.au/st-laurence-flexible-learning-centre-sflc-newcastle-documents-policies-and-reports/>

Pambula Beach FLC <https://www.ereafsn.edu.au/pambula-beach-flc-school-documents-policies-and-reports/>

Below is a brief description of some of the policies and procedures that can be found on our website. If you are having troubles accessing these or want to ask questions, please see any Flexible Learning Centre staff member.

EREA Child Safeguarding Policy

This policy guides our work practices in relation to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of students in our schools. It outlines expected behaviours and strategies to support groups of vulnerable Young People. It provides our mandatory obligations in mandatory reporting as well as what happens if the policy is breached.

EREA Code of Conduct

This policy details the standards of behaviour expected from EREA staff, visitors and volunteers. This includes expectations concerning interactions with students and colleagues as well as professional boundaries that must be maintained. It guides the way we use technology to communicate with students and the way we aim to promote an inclusive environment.

EREA Complaints Handling Guide

This policy outlines what a complaint is and procedures for making an informal or formal complaint. It explains our processes and what will happen once we receive a complaint. This policy also describes when complaints might also be treated as Reportable Conduct under the Ombudsman Act.

Other policies available on the websites include:

- ☐ Whistle Blower Protection Policy
- ☐ Student Enrolment Policy
- ☐ Student Attendance Policy
- ☐ Student Behaviour Management Policy
- ☐ Previous Annual Reports



BE AMBITIOUS

Become a Bricklayer



Certificate II in Construction Pathways CPC20220

Did you know that TAFE NSW offers the Certificate II in Construction Pathways CPC20220 to non-apprentices?

Students will learn the basic Bricklaying skills and knowledge to make them more attractive to gain employment in this thriving industry. They will also learn about safe work practices and receive advice about finding work.

ENQUIRE NOW, LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE!

COURSE INFORMATION:

DURATION: Up to 10 Weeks

(Course will start once required student numbers are met)

WHEN: 4 day, 28 hrs / wk (full time)

WHERE: TAFE NSW Wollongong
Bricklaying Section Block J, Foleys Lane,
Wollongong NSW 2500

COST: FREE or LOW COST* (eligibility criteria applies)



Contact us today!

brenden.hepper@tafensw.edu.au or
troy.everett1@tafensw.edu.au

Course: Certificate II in
Construction Pathways CPC20220

Entry Requirements:

- those under 17 need to have their ROSA/ be signed out of school.
- USI number

Courses are designed to give students valuable hands-on experience needed to gain employment in the bricklaying industry.

We are currently taking names and details of interested candidates for enrollment in 2023. [Expression of Interest Link](#)

This course is in high demand so be quick to secure your spot.

**HVTC**

skills change lives

WORK WITH BLUESCOPE

HVTC APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

HVTC is offering aspiring tradespeople the opportunity to kickstart an electrical or engineering mechanical trade with BlueScope in 2024.

BlueScope is one of HVTC's largest host employers, with a long history in the Illawarra community. Get hands-on experience, ongoing mentoring, learn from the best and rotate around different departments to enhance and broaden your training experience.

17 July - 11 August**Advertising period****22 - 23 August****Group interviews****6 - 19 September****1st stage interviews with HVTC****4 - 6 October****BlueScope interviews****January 2024****Commencement**

Scan the QR code, or visit
careers.hvtc.com.au to view
our current vacancies!

1800 247 864

skills change lives



Get your career moo-ving in the NSW Dairy industry!

Are you interested in a career in the dairy industry?
RIEP & Dairy NSW will be running industry visits to the
dairy's in your area to see and hear from the industry
experts about all the opportunities available from milking,
farming, robotics, drone surveying and more!

Kiama - The Pines Dairy (Regenerative Farming)

Camden - Gavana Holsteins Dairy (Traditional)

Nowra - Chitticks Dairy (Robotics)



To find out more speak to your career adviser today or
contact your RIEP officer for more details/book a tour

MEDIA FOR MILLENNIALS

SOCIAL MEDIA & CONTENT CREATION

**A workshop that teaches students how to use
Social Media as a business tool.**

Suitable for anyone who enjoys creating content, photography, film,
advertising & social media.

Students will design a Social Media
campaign on a specific product.

They will be taught how to build a brand &
create engaging digital & written content to
produce:

1x Facebook Post

1 x Instagram Post

1 x Instagram Story

1 x Twitter Post

Half day Workshop - \$25 Per student



WWW.MEDIAFORMILLENNIALS.COM.AU



APPRENTICESHIP/TRAINEESHIP & JOBS EXPOS

The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.

FREE PUBLIC ADMISSION



Newcastle & Hunter

Tuesday 8th August 2023

3pm to 8pm

NEX – Newcastle Exhibition & Convention Centre – Newcastle West



Wollongong

Tuesday 22nd August 2023

3pm to 8pm

Illawarra Sports Stadium - Berkeley



Western Sydney (St Marys)

Tuesday 5 September 2023

3pm to 8pm

Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre – Cambridge Park

The Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Job Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW.

Over 400 exhibitors and 20,000 visitors attend each year to have important career conversations with professionals. These expos are beneficial for high school graduates and career/job seekers to feel confident and knowledgeable about their future career choices.

If you are seeking a career or looking for a job, these events are not to be missed!

LOOKING FOR A JOB?

Employers' advice for young people



Many young people find that going from school to a job is tough. The good news is that many employers understand this and have suggestions for young people on how to improve their chances.¹

WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS THAT EMPLOYERS LOOK FOR?

Employers look for a number of things when recruiting young people, especially:

- A positive attitude and willingness to work
- Motivation and enthusiasm
- Someone who is prepared to learn and take direction.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE DEMANDS OF THE WORKPLACE?

Employers said that young people often had unrealistic expectations of work. These include:

- Being unprepared for the demands of the workplace and the nature of the work expected of them
- The level of pay on offer
- Wanting to 'start at the top' instead of working their way up.

HOW VALUABLE IS WORK EXPERIENCE?

Employers said that getting work experience or doing volunteer work is a good way for young people to prepare for work as it:

- Provides an opportunity to learn about workplace expectations
- Enables young people to get practical skills and insights into different jobs
- Demonstrates a young person's commitment to work.

IS BEING RELIABLE AND RESPONSIBLE IMPORTANT?

Yes, most employers also look for someone who is reliable and responsible. Young people need to be:

- Punctual and dependable
- Respectful to colleagues and customers
- Loyal and stay in a job for an acceptable period of time.

IS PRESENTATION IMPORTANT?

Yes, many employers said that young people need to pay more attention to their personal presentation, particularly when going to a job interview and when handing in their résumé. In particular, employers mentioned:

- Inappropriate clothing
- Untidy hair
- Tattoos, piercings and jewellery.

HOW SHOULD I APPLY FOR A JOB?

Many employers discussed the importance of good job search skills. Employers said that young people need to:

- Tailor their application to the position for which they are applying
- Pay more attention to detail in their applications and résumés, particularly spelling and grammar
- Approach employers directly and personally follow up on their résumé, while being well presented when doing so
- Demonstrate some understanding of the industry or job for which they are applying
- Communicate well and appear genuinely interested in the job.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To assist you in your job search, locating a Job Services Australia provider and access to a range of job sites go to www.jobsearch.gov.au