



Term 4 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.

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October is Mental Health Month



The Mental Health Month theme is 'We all have a role to play'. Whether it's taking time to care for yourself, caring for someone close to you, supporting your community to be more mental health aware, or being a mental health ally.

National Safe Work Month

When attending work experience, being healthy and safe in the work place means being free from physical and psychological harm. National Safe Work Month is to encourage you and the organisation to be aware and prioritise safety during your work experience.



EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
AUSTRALIA

Visit our website;

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

St Marys FLC

A NEW TERM

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

Last Term.....

We had a great and productive term 3, which included our work readiness program. The Program was facilitated by Nicole from Ability Options, and was a huge success with many young people engaged. Topics covered: The Job Hunting Journey, Resume and Cover Letters, Interview Skills, Apprenticeships & Traineeships and Appropriate Work-place Behaviour. We are also going to run this program next term with our afternoon class. Some of our Young People also successfully achieved their White Card.

We had an awesome Family Fun Day, which was held at Werrington Lakes, where our families came along. Activities included a scavenger hunt, volley ball, out door bowling and a picnic lunch.

During the term, our Young People also enjoyed bush walking, museum visits, magnet fishing and building a water system. They also worked on a 'deadly dreaming' unit, created some awesome artworks and enjoyed a 'virtual reality' experience as well as a day out at "Bounce", trampolines, dodge ball on trampolines, wall run, obstacle courses and high ropes.



Coming up in Term 4.....

11th Oct: Normal School classes return

24th Nov: 1st Aid and CPR Course

Hair and Beauty Taster

Get Ready for Work Program

6-8th Dec: Camp Killalea Regional Park

13th Dec: Presentation Day

Good News Stories from StMFLC.....

We had a presentation ceremony for the community picnic table that our young people had made for all the workers at the new airport. Our school has our name engraved on a plaque on the wall, and our Young People enjoyed a BBQ lunch to celebrate their hard work.



Pambula Beach FLC

Last Term.....

Term 3 was an active term for our young people, who continued to display solid engagement and success in their learning. With the purchase of a new school trailer, we were able to access new Mountain Bike Trails. We trekked to trails in Tathra, Cooma, Canberra & Mallacoota. There were many jumps performed, photos taken and a few punctured tyres.

We also continued our focus on cooking, both in the outdoor environment and in-class. There were many positive outcomes from these days including young people learning more about themselves and each other, developing an enhanced ability to communicate, work cooperatively and overcome challenges. There was an increase in our awareness of, and respect for, each other's strengths. Relationships were further built, as well as confidence and self-esteem. Leaders emerged during sessions & moral was high.

During class sessions novel studies were performed on Ahn Do's The Happiest Refugee and Paul Jennings UNREAL! books. The Happiest Refugee prompted many deep discussions and reflections on our own lives, whilst the Paul Jennings stories held our interest as many of his twisted stories featured local towns. Art sessions held a focus on clay sculpture where we created coil pots. Photography sessions continued to build on skills such as photography in low light, close up and adjustment of shutter speeds.

Coming up in Term 4.....

During term 4 many of our young people will finish their Certificate 2 in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways! We also look forward to further Team Initiatives and Survival Skills sessions in our Outdoor Education program as well as a Whale Watching Tour!

A NEW TERM

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



Good News Stories from PBFLC.....

We saw many of our young people participate in a Gaming Project, which is a Youth-led disaster preparedness & resilience project developed by Eden Community Access Centre.

The project enables young people to build skills & knowledge in disaster preparedness whilst building their digital literacy skills, particularly game design and coding. This project culminates in the development of a game targeted at youth, to support their knowledge in disaster preparedness and recovery. A worthwhile project indeed!

Wollongong FLC

A NEW TERM

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

Last Term.....

Over Term 3 as part of the "Broadening Horizons Program" we had an outing to the Chittick Family robotic dairy farm in Nowra. Upon our arrival, we were warmly welcomed by the staff from the farm and from Dairy NSW, who then took us on a tour of the farm.

In addition to the information relevant to employment in the NSW Dairy industry, our young people had a fun and engaging experience where they were able to feed and pet calves and learn about the different breeds of cows. Overall, the outing was an excellent opportunity for us to learn about modern farming, the employment opportunities available, and appreciate the effort that goes into producing the food we eat and an enjoyable experience.

Our young people also participated in surfing lessons at Corrimal Beach, bush walking at Fitzroy Falls, a 'dragon boat' experience, cable water skiing at an aqua park, canoeing, raft building, zip lining, bowling and laser tag. Not to mention attending Barista and first aid courses and a Tradie 'taster day'.

Coming up in Term 4.....

10th Oct: First Aid Course
24th Oct - Emergency Services Day
7th Nov - Introduction to Music & Recording Pathways
21st Nov - Transition Support Day - Corrimal Library
5th Dec - ITeC Barista Course



Good News Stories from WLGFLC.....

We continue to celebrate our Pathways Program, which now includes the introduction of the 'Broadening Horizons Program' and a 'tool kit' for our young people as well as the ongoing weekly 'jobs club'.

For more information about these programs, please have a look over to the next page and how these programs are continuing to assist and support young people into the workforce. Huge congrats to those Young People who have, and will be, participating in these programs.

The Pathways Program at Wollongong Flexi Learning Centre.

This program is about assisting and supporting our young people moving into the workforce. The aim is to build a **"tool kit"**, including the **'Broadening Horizons Program'** to help make the transition as smooth as possible. Young people will be exposed to range of employment and further education opportunities.

How do we do this?

- Exploration and research, careers, and industries.
- Work experience and the value of volunteering.
- Resume and cover letter writing as well as interview techniques/mock interviews
- Guest speakers, Presentations and job tours.
- Workday one, what to expect and the on boarding process.
- Driver's licence preparation and testing (age dependent).

This will build confidence and highlight external services that include a range of training organisations. It aims to put students in touch with potential employers & support any successful transition from Flexi to employment.

What do the young people get out of the program?

*The program is person centred and aims to address each students' individual needs. The **"tool kit"** will include,*

- An individual goals and transition plan, including a minimum of one trade certificate.
- A resume, cover letter & plenty of interview preparation.
- Completing at least one week of hands-on work experience.
- Set up TFN, USI and superannuation accounts.
- Interview clothes and accessories.

Broadening Horizons Program.

*This **FREE** program is open to everyone at Flexi and involves a series of excursions & incursions exploring the variety of career pathways available to young people **EVERY TUESDAY!** These include.*

- **Dress for Success (DFS)** – Helping improve the employability of young women by providing, free of charge, professional clothing. Our students are given advice and assistance dressing for interviews & employment.
- **White Card course** - SafeWork NSW construction card, is required to legally work on construction sites in NSW.
- **Trade Expo's** – These expose our students to business & industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to ask questions. It also enables exhibitors to collect resumes for upcoming recruitment drives.
- **Dairy Farm Experience** – Chittick Robotic Dairy, Nowra. Students are provided with dairy career information packs. Dairy NSW staff will also attend to provide information on careers in the dairy industry.
- **ITEC Barista course** – A workshop to learn how to use & maintain commercial coffee machine within the hospitality industry, how to texture milk, create coffee art and how to make the perfect cup of coffee.
- **First Aid course** – This First Aid course is designed to allow students to gain basic emergency & injury management knowledge and skills.
- **EMS Experience Day** – This will be aimed at our young people being exposed to the ADF, NSW Ambulance Service, NSW Police, SES, RFS and the NSW Fire Brigade and their respective recruitment arms.
- **ITEC Construction Taster Day** – This is the perfect hands-on introduction to the trades sector and allows students to get a better understanding of the skills required to obtain employment in that trade.
- **Transition Support Day** – Introducing our students to Workforce Australia, DES and T2Work Employment Services. These services assist navigating job seeking, Centrelink services and the NDIS application process.

Connecting with community..

Regional Industry Education Partnerships Program (RIEP)

An initiative of the NSW Government

Our RIEP continued collaboration with our Flexi schools in Term 3 included;

Heading on down to the Farm with young people from **Wollongong Flexi Centre** undertaking visits to **Chitticks Dairy** a Robotic Dairy in the Shoalhaven. The dairy's Automatic Milking System has two robot milkers where the cows come in of their own accord to get milked!



The tour included a walk around the farm a viewing of robotic dairy, a viewing of robotic dairy milking cows and a discussion with experienced farmers about the robotic dairy system. **Dairy NSW** staff also attended to provide information on careers in the industry and the role of **Dairy Australia**. To top off the day students received a dairy career information pack and finished the tour with a milkshake made from fresh milk from the farm.

Our Flexi's in both Sydney and Newcastle participated in the **Girls Can Too Program** with their RIEP partnerships. 'Girls Can Too' saw our female young people learning hands-on skills like carpentry, electrical, automotive, welding and electronics.



The young people got their hands dirty learning to service a car, make a picnic table and weld a phone stand. They each completed a week of work experience in their chosen field, took industry site tours and spoke with trailblazing women who have already tackled a trade pathway. The work experience was supported by numerous local employers. The comments by some of our young people included; *"I really enjoy the "Girls can do program" it was good to experience what all the industries are about. My favourite was plumbing as I liked all the hands-on stuff" and "My favourite part of the "Girls can do program" was plumbing. I liked meeting Girls from other schools. It was a lot of fun and a good experience."*



GIRLS CAN DO

Girls who empower:
breaking barriers,
unleashing potential,
forming futures



STREET ART WORKSHOP

REGIONAL INDUSTRY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS (RIEP)

WITH JYIRO



WANT TO GET CREATIVE ?

EXPLORE THE PATHWAYS TO BECOMING A STREET ARTIST ?

BRING YOUR PAINTING CLOTHES & JOIN THIS 4 HOUR WORKSHOP!

ARTIST TALK

SAFETY PRACTICES

AEROSOL & DESIGN SKILLS

CREATE THEIR OWN ARTWORK

10 X STUDENTS PER GROUP

CONTACT YOUR RIEP OFFICER

JENNIFER.WATTS6@DET.NSW.EDU.AU

NEIL.BESSANT@DET.NSW.EDU.AU



PERKY POOCHES

2-day workshop 9am - 2.30pm

Crn of Central Ave and Industrial Rd Oak Flats
(train station across road)

RIEP

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RIEP

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01 WHS & Intro into dog salon

04 Basic bathing

02 Grooming theory

05 Model dog practical styling

03 Drying techniques

06 Real dog handling

- Students are to bring their own lunch & drink (fridge available)
- Wear old clothes, enclosed shoes, and long hair tied back
- Work Experience opportunities available for suitable students



MINING EXPERIENCE WORKSHOP



Funded by RIEP until 30 June 2023 and then at a cost of \$30 per student thereafter

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



Illawarra Aboriginal Business Expo

Wollongong Art Gallery
Thursday 12 October
10am - 12noon

Come along and discover
amazing Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander businesses
from a wide range of sectors
including construction,
education and more!

**FREE
ENTRY**

Celebrating
National Indigenous
Business month



Email: participate@wollongong.nsw.gov.au
Proudly presented by Illawarra Indigenous
Business Network and Wollongong City Council

