

YEAR 7 -10 COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS 2019

SEMESTER 1



Dear parents, carers and students,

Students in Year 7 - 10 are all required to choose a Community Connections activity for Semester 1, 2019.

Community Connections activities are focused on service learning, which is a core component of the IB.

Students should consider their preferences carefully, based on academic and special areas of interest. All classes have a limit to the number of students that can enrol; however, every effort will be made for students to be placed in their first or second preference class. Careful decisions can help lead your child to make informed, happier and healthier life choices.

Community Connections will be reported on at the end of the semester and students will be required to complete a self-reflection on their progress and achievement in this class.

Students will be notified of their final placement by the end of Week 1, Term 1, 2019. If any errors are made in class placements, students will have an opportunity to discuss them in week 2, 2019. After this time **NO** changes will be made.

Students may choose a Community Connection they have done before, however, priority will be given to new students for each Community Connection.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Regards

Sam Beattie
Deputy Principal
Senior Site

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY CONNECTION MODULES

Reading to Connect

Giving Through Music

Musical Production Preparation

STEAM for All

The Kindness Project

Sustainable School Green Spaces

Sports Coaching for Primary Students

Transform the canteen dining space - Create a Cafe - THE FINAL STAGE

Community Radio

Breakfast Club

Helping Hands

Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse...

School Newsletter

Gold Creek School Food Drive

Spick & Span

Hair care, hygiene, braiding, cultural styles...

Cadet Rural Fire Brigade training

Finding the Energy

G'Day and Welcome

School Community

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS 2019

Reading to Connect

In this activity students will visit the junior site to enable young students to connect and develop peer relationships with older students and vice versa. Students will help their younger peers to connect to the world around them by reading stories they can relate with. Students, both senior and junior, will grow through sharing experiences, time together and become aware of the language and thinking of students around the school. Reading to Connect is a programme that aims to promote social access, inclusivity and student voice.



Giving Through Music

In this activity students will develop a wide variety of music industry skills. This may include performance, band management or music production. Students will be given support in developing their chosen skills with a specific focus on how they can use them to support their local and extended community. This course will significantly push the comfort zones of all students who take it and will be great for building communication and presentation skills whilst developing further expert knowledge in this field. Students are expected to participate in, and to organise, musical performance events in both our school and the wider community. The Giving Through Music programme is another way that students are included, skilled to give support and promote well-being for all ages.



Musical Production Preparation

This Community Connection class provides students with opportunities to develop their own collaborative, technical and artistic skills through exploring set design, theatre production and community engagement. Through this class students will bring their skills and learning together in planning, developing and running the annual school production, for students and families across the whole K-10 school. This programme provides a practical platform for promoting inclusive and innovative industry practices.



STEAM for All

This class will develop and deliver engaging STEAM activities to undertake with the focus of improving the school and the local community. This program asks students to identify, explore and designed solutions to real world issues. Through a project-based approach, students work collaboratively to build their experience, confidence, time and resource management skills. An initial focus will explore sustainable practices around both the multiple uses of Fungus and Entomophagy. From this knowledge base students will plan their own projects around improving future affordable, reliable and sustainable environment developments.



The Kindness Project

This community connection is all about KINDNESS. We will spread kindness around our school (just like confetti!) as we promote well-being and healthy living. Using the World Happiness Report developed by the United Nations as a basis for finding out what makes communities happy, we will identify ways in which we can make our school community a happier, and kinder place. We will use the IB learner profile attribute of being 'caring' and experience what it is like to express kindness. Our aim is for our whole entire school to benefit from our kindness!

You should sign up for The Kindness Project if you:

- Enjoy helping people
- Want to make our school community a kinder place



Sustainable School Green Spaces

Students in this Community Connection will be exploring, planning and develop their skills through reviewing and developing the green spaces around the school, using a sustainable gardening approach.

We will be developing these spaces to provide wellness and produce for both the school and wider communities. This project will also provide educational resources and community learning opportunities. This programme works to engage students in exploring and creating what a safe, resilient and sustainable human settlement could look like.



Sports Coaching for Primary Students

In this activity students will learn basic coaching skills. The course is designed for coaches at a primary school level. The course is a combination of various international and modified games coaching courses and also includes a suite of online coaching units available through the Australian Institute of Sport. Providing pathways for healthy lives and actively promoting well-being for all ages is paramount to this programme. Students will help with the major school carnivals and coaching on the junior site

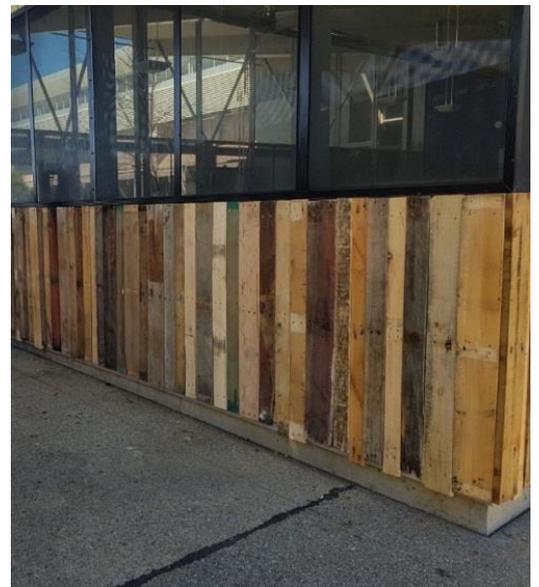


Transform the canteen dining space - Create a Cafe - THE FINAL STAGE

[Entrepreneurs: It's Your Move. Think, Design, Innovate for Health]

This programme invites students to implement and revitalise their own collective actions and to partner with external agents in creating sustainable developments. In 2018 students surveyed the school to ask what they wanted from a new school canteen. This year we are implementing those changes. Wouldn't you like to have lunch in a funky, cafe style dining space? It's Your Move (IYM) is an initiative of the ACT Government which enables students to use innovation to improve their school food and drink environment. This program will give student the opportunity to design, plan and transform their canteen to a place where students want to be. Be part of the Community Connections group that bring changes to the menu items, the look and feel of the canteen and develop business skills along the way. Students will follow the innovation/entrepreneurial process to produce solutions to improving the health of their school community. You will learn how to think like an Entrepreneur, have local cafe mentors to help you and learn about good nutrition. We will be refurbishing some of the old furniture, creating artwork for the walls and giving the whole canteen a new appearance.

THIS IS NOT A COOKING SUBJECT.



Community Radio

In this activity students will learn about the power of communication and how radio stations and radio programming can enhance the lives of others through entertainment, information and opinion. Students will develop an understanding of how to use audio tools to create their own radio shows. Students will engage in developing material for break time shows as well as pre-recording shows for publication. Shows can explore key issues facing young people and students' ideas on how to enhance the world around them.



Breakfast Club

Students will connect to the school community by running a breakfast club as part of a small team of students. Community connection time will be spent learning how to run the breakfast club, promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns. This learning includes the organisation, cleaning, cooking, sourcing resources and most importantly, service to others in the school community. Students must be able to commit to attending school by 7:30am in-order to run their group's breakfast club at least once a fortnight.



Helping Hands

Students in this Community Connection will organise themselves towards supporting a not-for-profit organisation from within the Canberra community. Students will look at developing resources through recycle refunding and building relationships with local businesses. Team work, communication, planning, organising and managing timelines are some of the skills to be developed and used through this programme.



Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse...

In this class students will explore ideas of sustainability use of materials and how to give items 'no longer used/wanted' a new lease of life. Students will develop skills around recycling, repurposing and reusing everyday items to create new and useful items. Knowledge around responsible consumption and production, both locally and globally is also highlighted. Most of the recycled and repurposed materials used in this Community Connection is timber. It is recommended that students who have a strong interest in woodworking or building select this subject. An example of a previous project was the repurposing old hardwood fence palings into a serving tray used in an outdoor BBQ setting and offered to the Gold Creek School community. Students in this programme will have opportunity to bring in old items from home and through the process of recycling, repurposing and re using materials, create and build a new item with a new lease of life and function.



School Newsletter

Students work on producing a monthly/twice-a-term/once-a-term student newspaper and/or contribute to the school bites and newsletters. Students will develop journalism skills (including writing, photography, editing, etc.) and administration/organisational skills in producing the final product. Students will work to contribute to communication and awareness of issues in the school community. The newspaper could also be an outlet for raising awareness and discussing issues in the broader local community.

Dear Parents/Carers

Term 4 is traditionally a very busy one, as we not only finalise our learning for 2018 but start to plan for our 2019 school year. It is a great term for reflecting on the year that was, and it is always so powerful to look back at the growth of our students over the year. As we walk around the classrooms and see the development and growth of learners, we are so proud of the achievements of our students, such as watching our little Kindergartners students now reading and writing with such joy, preparing our year 6 students during exhibition or supporting our year 10 students as they prepare for college. We want to thank all our teachers and parents for supporting us this year and ask you also to reflect on the growth of your child as we move towards the end of year.

Today marks a very important day in recognising the work of all our educators at Gold Creek School, as we Celebrate World Teacher's Day. World Teacher's day is recognised as a day to say thank you to those teachers and educators that have made an impact on us. On behalf of the leadership team we wish to say thank you to not only our teachers, but all our staff who educate Gold Creek students in every interaction. In the words of Malala Yousofzai:



Gold Creek School Food Drive

This programme has students working towards the UN goal to 'End poverty in all its forms everywhere'. Students will develop a variety of strategies towards stockpiling non-perishable food for a Canberra charity; to support families within our wonderful community.



Spick & Span

We are proud of our school and want to keep it looking great. Students in this Community Connection will seek ideas from the wider school community to develop and lead small initiatives to beautify various spaces. This could involve putting up posters, removing graffiti, weeding garden beds and tidying areas around the school. Students will need to demonstrate a 'can do' attitude and be prepared to pitch in to get jobs done.



Hair care, hygiene, braiding, cultural styles...

Students use solutions fluency research to discover the process and need for hair care. They will also share styles and practices from their own and other cultures. Students learn about, create and practice different styles and techniques. Students then design and create directions for people to follow using digital media.



Cadet Rural Fire Brigade training

In association with either the ACT ESA or the Hall Rural Fire Service. Members of this CC would be trained up as cadet fire fighters by a Training Officer from either the ESA or Hall RFS, with the intention of making these cadets fire ready to serve their families and communities. This would involve learning all about rural fires and the equipment needed to fight them. And yes, Cadets would get to ride in a fire truck with the siren on!



Finding the Energy

Through this Community Connection programme students will share their knowledge and together research opportunities to create affordable and clean energy.

Students will develop learning and skills around new innovations, materials and thinking as they respond to finding affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for everyone.

Along the way students might create solar cars, improve the bicycle and make energy producing exercise bikes, etc.



G'Day and Welcome

Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions is the title of the UN Sustainable Development Goal for promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development. In this Community Connection programme students will explore the issues, concerns and needs of New Australians, resettled Refugees and visitors to Canberra and our local community.

Students will employ and develop their interpersonal, inquiry and communication skills through the course of this programme as they sensitively enquire, identify and develop resources, programmes and sharing story.



School Community

In this Community Connection, students dream big to find ways to make Gold Creek a more fun, positive place to be. The focus is on enhancing school culture and Strong feeling of belonging and community in the school. They will develop activities, events and initiatives that will make sure students, staff, and the school community feel they belong at Gold Creek.

Students will develop leadership skills along with learning organisation, coordination resource management and communication skills, social skills by designing and implementing school-wide programs to enhance their community. If you have some ideas for how the school community could be improved, or if you would like to help make our school a better place to be, this is the group for you!

