

# YEAR 7 -10 COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS 2019

## SEMESTER 2



Dear parents, carers and students,

Students in Year 7 - 10 are all required to choose a Community Connections activity for Semester 2, 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 8, Term 2, 2019. If any errors are made in class placements, students will have an opportunity to discuss them before the end of week 10, Semester 1, 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

Card Making

Community Radio

Create-a-Cafe

DanceFest and the Wider Community

Enriching Enrichment

Giving Through Music

Happy Healthy Teens

Helping Hands

Knitting and Knattering

Minor Mending

Musical Production Preparation

Project Gold

Random Acts of Kindness

Reading the Right Way

Reading to Connect

Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse...

School Newsletter

Spick & Span

Sports and Activities Coaching

Sustainable Green Spaces

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS Semester 2 2019

### Card Making

This is an opportunity for concerned and caring students to put their ideas and creative energy into action: making cards for those less fortunate than us. We will be look at cause and effect models and see how we can respond with practical acts of care and kindness. Students will develop gift making skills and ideas as individuals and in small response teams. The web address below has given inspiration to this Community Connection class and might inspire and guide student engagement and responses.

<https://www.doinggoodtogether.org/bhf/create-greeting-cards>



### 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.

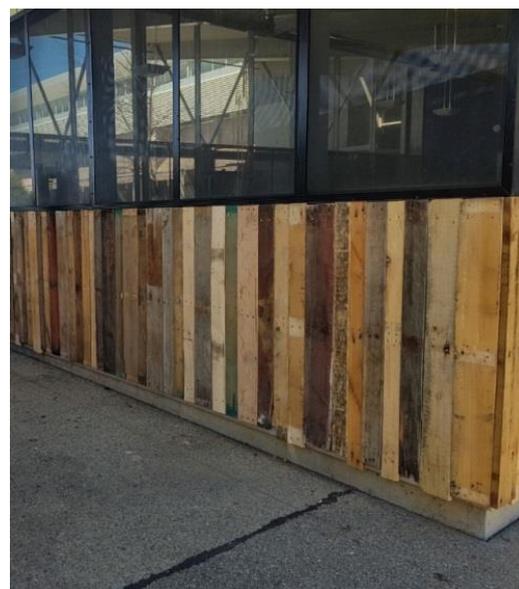


### Create a Cafe

#### [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.**





## 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.



## Knitting and Knattering

In this activity, knitters and crotcheters will produce blankets, hats, bunnies suitable for donation to charities and institutions, including hospitals and animal shelters.



## Minor Mending

Students will make minor repairs to donated second-hand uniforms and any other items dropped off into a drop-box by students or teachers. We can advertise that this repair service is available and ask people to drop off items requiring repair in a bag with their name and P.C. class attached. The students will learn how to perform minor repairs such as re-attaching buttons, sewing seams and small tears as well as some patching. There may be a possibility to do larger repairs as well.



## Musical Production Preparation

One way that the whole of Gold Creek School comes together as a community (junior and senior students, staff, parents and carers) is through the annual musical production. This project requires the active service of a lot of students with a lot of different talents, not just through performing but also in giving up their time to grow the production. Students enrolled in this community connections class will learn and employ skills to work together, design and create school performance resources, develop communication networks and calendars and to work with the wider school, and local communities. The skills learned will help right across the school, community and into each student's future. If this sounds like the service area that you're interested in, then this is the community connections class for you.



## Project Gold

Are there things you want to see change at our school? Do you have ideas for how to make Gold Creek great again but are wondering if we can do it? YES WE CAN! Project Gold offers you change you can believe in. We are the ones we've been waiting for. Work alone, in pairs, or bigger groups developing your toolkit to take action on a project that delivers something you want to make happen at this school. Over the semester you'll learn the skills to create, plan and implement a project to make our school community more exciting, welcoming, comfortable, interesting or encouraging. Together, there's nothing we can't do. Let's turn possibility into reality.



## Random Acts of Kindness

Research has shown that performing an act of kindness produces the single most reliable momentary increase in well-being of any exercise that has been tested. Students will be challenged to perform random acts of kindness in many ways. This may be for an individual, a teacher, a class, the school or the community at large. We could help to clean areas of the school, create a tidy garden or even think bigger. The possibilities for kindness are endless.

THE SMALLEST ACT OF KINDNESS  
*is worth more*  
THAN THE  
*Grandest*  
*intention.*  
-OSCAR WILDE

## Reading the Right Way

Students today may be experiencing the digital age, but research suggest that reading books is still an important part of becoming a Global citizen. More importantly, the books that people read, how difficult they are and how often they engage in this past time can have a massive impact on their ability to understand complex issues, tell fake news apart from real news and get informed and involved in society. The primary objective of this Community connection is to encourage and develop a culture of literature appreciation at Gold Creek School by creating a range of book reviews to showcase around the school. The secondary objective is to build and populate a School Book library in the theme of the popular Street libraries where individuals can swap books to share enjoyment of reading.



## 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.



## Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse...

In this class, students will develop skills around recycling, repurposing and reusing wooden pallets to create new table tops for the canteen tables. 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 of old hardwood fence palings into a serving tray used in an outdoor BBQ setting. Knowledge around responsible consumption and production, both locally and globally is also highlighted. Students will explore ideas of sustainability, use of materials and how to give items 'no longer used/wanted' a new lease of life.



## School Newsletter

Students will meet each fortnight to work on contributions and design for student blog, school newsletter and social media. This has been a work in progress for Term 1 and will become more developed through the year and may involve the School Yearbook. Students will develop practical literacy and design skills and this Community Connection will be a forum for students to publish articles of interest and inform the community including about other Community Connections and student activities across the school.



## Spick & Span

Students in Spick and Span will seek ideas from the wider school community to develop and lead small initiatives to beautify various spaces around our school. Each group will work on their own chosen projects based on their own research around the school. The projects could involve cleaning and painting green bins, making wooden tables for the concourse areas, 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.



## Sports and Activities Coaching

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 games coach courses, modified games coaching courses, and a suite of online coaching units through the Australian Institute of Sport. Students will help with the major school carnivals, transition activities with associated local primary schools and coaching on the junior site.



## Sustainable Green Spaces

Students will continue building a sustainable school garden and producing crops which can be used by the create a Cafe community connection and in cooking classes. Students will learn practical gardening skills, as well as project planning and implementation. Students will be encouraged to work with other community connections and with the school at large. Sustainability is more than just gardens and students will have the opportunity to be involved in citizen science projects such as the Aussie backyard bird count in October and the Wild pollinator count in November. The data collected on from these activities will be added to national databases and will benefit the wider community. Please be aware that this community connection will require active participation in activities such as digging, weeding, planting, research, wildlife observation and data collecting and will mostly take place outside of the classroom.

