

The Sin Bin



TERM 1, 2019

Congratulations Snowy Mountains Christian School and Queanbeyan High School - CRJO Term 1 grant winners!



SMCS, Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan High School, Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council have both completed the CRJO 'Working with Waste' program in Term 1. Both schools have developed fantastic action plans for reducing waste to landfill at their schools and have been awarded \$250 from CRJO waste education to help them put their plans into action.

Year 9 and 10 students from Snowy Mountains Christian School found in their waste audit that soft plastics were a major part of what their school was sending to landfill each week. Their action plan is to implement soft plastic bins at the school - which they have already done. 5 x 27L bins have been placed around the school and soft plastics are collected and sent to Coles and Woolworths soft plastic recycling pick up each Friday. Pictured (above left) are students from the school with a bag of soft plastics that they have collected.

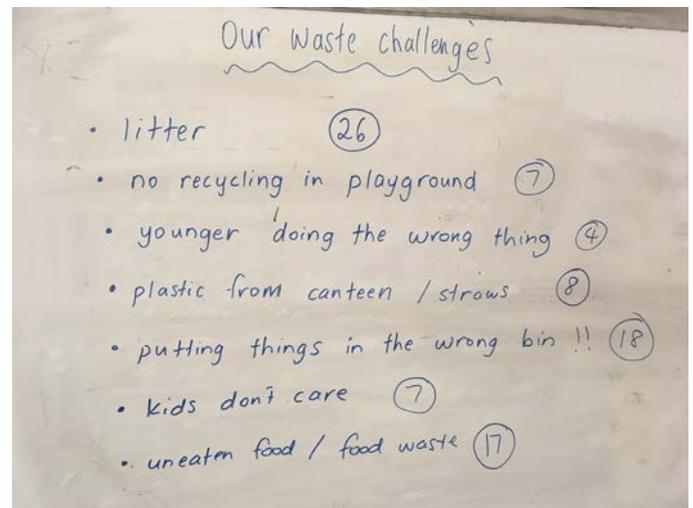
The Eco-Teens of Queanbeyan High School have proposed a two phase approach to educating their school community about waste going to landfill as their action plan. Their first phase will involve signage around the school, on the bins and in the classrooms and the second phase involves planning an Environment Day for the wider community. This amazing group of high school students (pictured above right) have loads more ideas as well including saying no to straws, offering recyclable cups instead of no-recyclable ones, nude food mufti days and cleaning up litter around the school. The group meet each fortnight to work on their action plan.

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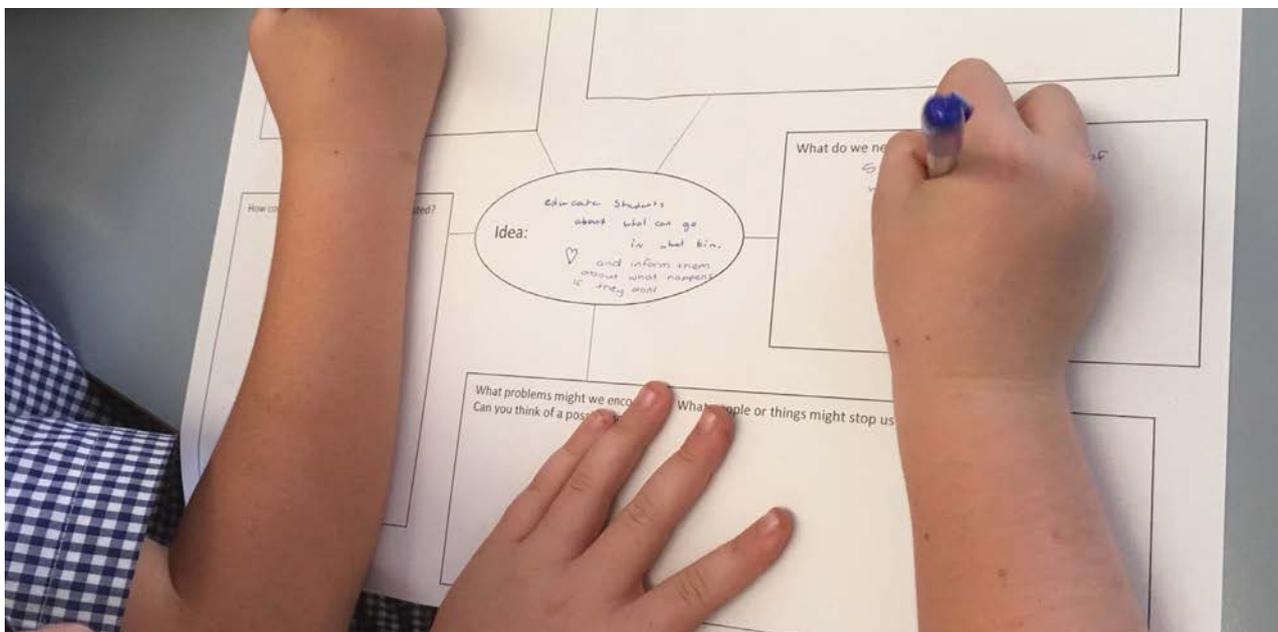


Making Change at Schools

CRJO's new waste education program allows students to focus on how to create change in the way their school manages its waste and to understand how change happens and why it can sometimes be challenging. Schools from the Snowy Monaro, Goulburn Mulwaree and Bega Valley Shire councils have all participated in this program so far.



A major part of this program is for students to think about the main waste challenges at their school and to decide which out of these challenges they think they should try and change (see above right). The students then brainstorm solutions to the challenges they have identified and collect and compare these ideas (see above left). One of the ideas is then chosen per group of students and developed into an action plan (see below). Well done to all the students and teachers that have been involved in this program - we really look forward to seeing some of the action plans in place.



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Great links to waste education news

[Sturt Public School's war on waste video](#)

[Kiama High School teacher shares the school's journey to improve sustainability](#)

[Planet Ark News - Positive Environment News](#)

[What the shell: how much is too much plastic for sea turtles?](#)

[Sustainable Schools NSW - waste teaching resources](#)

[Free coffee! All you've got to do is fill a bucket with rubbish from the beach](#)

Clean Up Australia Day -

Many schools and communities participated in Clean Up Australia day activities this term. Pictured here (right) are students from Karabar High School who worked with staff from Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council and Queanbeyan Landcare to clean up along the river. They noticed a large amount of plastic take away containers littered along the waterway. All in all the council had 10 schools sign up for Schools CUAD - fantastic work!



What are our students saying?

Stage 3 students from Goulburn West Public School recently completed a CRJO waste education program and were asked 'Why should we care?'. Here a few of their responses:

- because we only have one earth and should look after it
- because if we don't start looking after our planet it will just be a planet of waste
- we should care because in the end we could end up living in garbage
- we should care because our sea creatures are dying and our world is too, which means no fish and chips and no swimming in certain places.

All teachers and council staff - please note:

If you are interested in running a waste audit, or would like support or assistance with any waste education programs at your schools, please get in contact.

Contact Julie.Donnez@det.nsw.edu.au

Access past Sin Bin issues and see our latest waste education news on the Bournda Environmental Education Centre's website. [Click here to be taken to the BEEC website](#)