

## Northern Rivers Primary School garden network

Online meeting 18 November 24, 4.30pm-6pm

Hosted by Northern NSW Local Health District (NNSWLHD)

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Kathryn Leary, teacher - Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School	Jamie Vaniersel – Southern cross Public
Chris Metcalfe, teacher, Clarence Valley Anglican School (CVAS)	Emma Dean, Pottsville Beach Primary
Jeanette Bendeich, STEM teacher, Kingscliff Public School	Jenni Cargill-Strong, Private School (Goldcoast)
Jeff Bottle, Wellbeing/ school support – St Ambrose, Pottsville	Juanita Thomson Principal Rosebank Public School
Fiona Berry, Bexhill Public School	Shane Runciman, Twisted Tucker
Venetia Scott, Cape Byron Steiner School	
Corinne Martin, Health Promotion Officer, NNSWLHD	

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS
<b>Welcome and acknowledgement of country</b>	Corinne welcomed everyone to the meeting	
<b>Introductions</b>	Each person introduced themselves and spoke briefly about their school garden.	
<b>Sharing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Kathryn, Lindisfarne</b> – Have 17 wicking beds and an overabundance of produce. Have joined Stephanie Alexander Kitchen garden program. Use garden for science, maths, art learning for years 1,2,3,4 – 45 min sessions. Does some cooking with students – have found allergies to be challenging.</li> <li>- <b>Chris</b> – teaches woodwork in high school (CVAS) – wants to incorporate gardening. Was also involved in 5 primary school veg gardens during flood recovery.</li> <li>- <b>Jeanette</b> – Has been working in Kingscliff Public School garden for 6 weeks. Brand new school. Provide some produce to canteen. Students get involved during lunchtime or when needing a break from class – 10 regular students.</li> <li>- <b>Jeff, St Ambrose</b> – Does some cooking of pizza, damper with garden produce. Students love to taste produce. Students</li> </ul>	

	involved during lunchtime Wants to get more parents involved.	
<b>GUEST PRESENTATION</b>  <b>Ventia, Cape Byron Steiner School – Guest presenter</b>	<p>Ventia’s presentation can be listened to via the meeting recording. Unfortunately, the first part of her presentation was not recorded, however the below notes were taken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3<sup>rd</sup> year at school, works one day pw.</li> <li>- Has a grad certificate in permaculture. Also does market gardening and involved with young farmers connect</li> <li>- Started a flood recovery neighbourhood centre.</li> <li>- Interested in therapeutic horticulture.</li> <li>- School has a canteen garden, cut flower garden, pick and play garden and 6 garden beds for the High School plus learning area.</li> <li>- Works with year 3 – runs 2 X 45 min sessions. Groundsman helps out.</li> <li>- kids do a bit of everything and choose what to grow.</li> <li>- Sunflowers planted all year round. Grows calendula, turmeric – use for dyeing, rosella (make cordial).</li> <li>- Grow brassicas, eggplant, curcubits. Cover crops include cow pea, field raddish, sunflowers</li> <li>- Purchase some flower seedlings from Bunnings, some bulbs.</li> <li>- Have accessed free seeds from diggers club program.</li> <li>- Teachers do some cooking and make kale and sweet potato chips.</li> <li>- School has a Friday produce market after school run by students</li> <li>- Steiner School values garden education</li> </ul>	
<b>Support of school gardens</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussion on how schools support gardens can be listened to via meeting recording.</li> </ul>	
<b>Future meetings – content, guest speakers and format</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Corinne has spoken to the Bunnings Lismore garden club coordinator, Mark who is happy to speak at one of our meetings next year. He can cover many topics including potting mixes, mulching, watering systems, organic control</li> <li>- Corinne will explore other guest speakers</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chris would like to be added to the whatsapp group. Will send through details to Corinne to pass on to Fiona</li> <li>- Next meeting will be held in term 1, 2025.</li> <li>- Meeting closed 5.40pm</li> </ul>	
<b>Other business/ discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a current whatsapp school garden group that all schools are welcome to join.</li> <li>- Anyone interested in joining the WhatsApp group please email <a href="mailto:corinne.martin@health.nsw.gov.au">corinne.martin@health.nsw.gov.au</a> with their phone number.</li> <li>- Meeting minutes, recordings and resource links will be saved here <a href="#">Schools and early childhood services - Health Promotion</a></li> </ul>	.
	<b>Meeting closed 2.30pm</b>	