20TH JUNE 2025 TERM 2, WEEK8

INFOLINE

Crestwood High School Fortnightly Newsletter





From the Relieving Principal

By Elly Connolly

IN THIS ISSUE

Celebrating Our NAPLAN Success!

I'm thrilled to share some outstanding news regarding our students' NAPLAN results, particularly in the Year 9 literacy assessments. The data reflects significant growth, showcasing the hard work and dedication of our students and teachers alike.

Our Year 9 students have demonstrated exceptional improvement from their Year 7 results in 2023 to their Year 9 results in 2025. This progress is particularly evident in the areas of Grammar and Punctuation and Writing:

· Grammar and Punctuation:

We have seen a remarkable increase in the percentage of students moving from "strong" to "exceeding" expectations. In Year 7 (2023), 26.2% of our students achieved a strong understanding, which has now risen to an impressive 37.6% in Year 9 (2025).

· Writing:

Similarly, our students have improved significantly in Writing, with the percentage of students moving from "strong" to "exceeding" growing from 20.7% in Year 7 (2023) to 33.7% in Year 9 (2025).

SCIENCE NEWS

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WELFARE NEWS

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MATHS MUSINGS

ENGLISH NEWS



Celebrating Our NAPLAN Success!



These results are a testament to the effectiveness of the evidence-based literacy programs we initiated in 2024, which will continue to support our students in 2025 and beyond. Key components of these programs include:

· Homeroom Literacy Lessons:

Every Tuesday morning, we conduct explicit lessons focused on grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and vocabulary. These lessons are designed to build a solid foundation for our students' literacy skills.

· Year 8 Literacy Lessons:

Expanding on the homeroom lessons, these sessions provide an opportunity to delve more deeply into how an understanding of grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and vocabulary can elevate writing.

· Writing in Secondary Program:

This Department of Education initiative emphasises the explicit teaching of writing for purpose, incorporating structure, grammar, and vocabulary. Piloted in our school by a small team of teachers from across five faculties in 2023, this program has now been expanded for adoption throughout the school and integrated into all subject areas. The implementation of this program at Crestwood has been led by Mrs Amy Parker from the English faculty.

As we celebrate these achievements, I would like to encourage our families to continue supporting literacy and writing development at home. Here are a few simple ways you can contribute:

- 1. **Encourage Reading**: Provide access to a variety of reading materials that interest your child, whether they are books, magazines, or online articles.
- 2. **Writing Practice:** Encourage your child to keep a journal, write stories, or even draft letters to family and friends.
- 3. **Discuss Literacy**: Engage in conversations about what they are reading or writing. Ask open-ended questions that promote critical thinking.
- 4. **Explore CANVAS**: Ask your child to show you the literacy work they are completing on CANVAS. This platform is a valuable resource for tracking their progress and understanding the concepts being taught.
- 5. **Create a Literacy-Friendly Environment**: Designate a quiet space for reading and writing activities, free from distractions.

Together, we can foster a love for literacy and writing that will serve our students well in their academic journeys and beyond. Thank you for your continued support of our school and our students' learning.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Study Hub

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we continue to support our senior students through the final and often most demanding stage of their schooling, I am pleased to share an exciting new initiative designed to enhance the learning experience for our Year 12 students.

We will be offering a **Year 12 "Study Hub"** every **Tuesday afternoon in the school library**, from the conclusion of the school day until **4:00 PM**. The Study Hub will provide students with a quiet, supervised space where they can focus on study, complete assignments, and collaborate with peers.

Our goal is to create a calm, structured environment that encourages good study habits and reduces the need for students to travel off-site to find suitable places to revise. We understand that many students benefit from having a consistent and familiar setting in which to concentrate and work productively—this hub aims to provide just that.

Please note that attendance at the Study Hub is **entirely voluntary**. It is a **supportive resource** rather than a compulsory program, designed to meet the needs of students who wish to take advantage of it. However, to ensure appropriate supervision and safety, students must have **parent/carer consent** to attend. This is a **one-off requirement**, and students will be expected to sign in and out each Tuesday afternoon using the provided register.

There will be a consent form coming out via **School Bytes** this afternoon that will explain this process.

As the Deputy Principal, I'm passionate about ensuring every student thrives not just academically, but also online. The digital world offers incredible possibilities—but also brings challenges. In this newsletter I would like to focus on supporting your role in guiding students through this evolving landscape.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Understanding Online Safety

Recent findings show that over half of Australian teens experience online risks—like cyberbullying, misinformation, and hate speech—yet only around 40% formally report these incidents <u>dailytelegraph.com.au</u>. It's vital that families have tools and confidence to help young people:

- Recognise and report online harm
- Manage digital device use
- · Model responsible and respectful behaviour



Australia's eSafety Commissioner offers a wealth of **free**, practical tools:

- Parent guides and tip sheets: Topics include gaming, managing devices/apps, cyberbullying/online drama, parental controls and digital mental health <u>esafety.gov.auesafety.gov.au</u>.
- **Multilingual materials**: Advice sheets and animated videos are available in languages including Arabic, Chinese, Vietnamese and more <u>esafety.gov.au</u>.
- **Family tech agreements**: Templates to help set rules around device use <u>esafety.gov.auesafety.gov.au</u>.
- **Mighty Heroes video series**: Fun, engaging clips that teach children about digital safety powers <u>esafety.gov.au</u>.
- **Free webinars:** Weekly parent/carer webinars explain latest risks and equip families with effective strategies <u>esafety.gov.auesafety.gov.au</u>.

You can access these at eSafety's dedicated Parents page: resources include downloads, videos, posters and ordering options here:

https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources

I'm hoping this will be a supportive tool in which you can use as guides to form conversations in the home.

Until next time, Ms Roberts.

SUBJECT SELECTION
INFORMATION EVENING

Year 8 and Year 10

DETAILS:

Date: Tuesday, 24 June 2025

Location: Crestwood High School Hall

Time: Year 10 into Year 11 begins at 5:00PM

Year 8 into Year 9 begins at 6:00PM



FURTHER DETAILS:

For further details, please see the invitation on the next page.

Parents and students are encouraged to review the <u>Stage 5</u> and <u>Stage 6</u> subject selection website beforehand to explore available subjects and options .

Selecting subjects is a crucial decision that extends beyond a simple formality; it plays a significant role in shaping students' interests, strengths, and future opportunities.

This evening offers key information and a chance to engage directly with teachers helping families make informed choices with confidence.

Crestwood High School eagerly anticipates welcoming families to this vital event. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

See you all there!

Mr Eric Vi, Head Teacher Secondary Studies

INVITATION

SUBJECT INFORMATION EVENING

TUES 24 JUNE

CRESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL



VISION AND PROGRESS

YEAR 10

LIBRARY

4:30 pm - Alternate Pathways

HALL

5:00 pm – Introduction to Stage 6 subject selection process

LIBRARY + HALL

5:20 pm - Subject exhibitions

6:00 pm – Conclusion of Stage 6 subject selection evening

YEAR 8

HALL

6:00 pm - Introduction to Stage 5 subject selection process

6:30 pm - Subject exhibitions

7:00 pm - Conclusion of Stage 5 subject selection evening

CAPA Highlights MAD NIGHT

When: Thursday 3rd July
Time: 5pm - Art Exhibition opens
6pm - Music Performances

Join us for an evening celebrating the talents of our Creative Arts students on Thursday 3rd July in the school hall. Selected artworks from a range of Visual Arts classes will be on display from 5pm, with performances from our Music students from 6pm. Light refreshments will be provided.













WELFARE NEWS

Vaccinations



Upcoming School Vaccination Dates - Reminder for Parents and Carers

A reminder that school immunisation days are approaching:

- Year 7 vaccinations: Monday 28th of July
- Year 10 vaccinations: Monday 18th of August

These vaccinations are provided by NSW Health as part of the School Vaccination Program.

Consent Process

Parents and carers are encouraged to complete the online consent form as soon as possible using the link provided by NSW Health.

https://engage.health.nsw.gov.au/engage

Need a Paper Copy?

If you are unable to complete the online consent, paper forms are available from Mr Davis' office. Once completed, these forms should be returned directly to Mr Davis.

Missed the Vaccination Day?

Students who are absent on the day will be offered the vaccine on a catch-up day, which will be on the 15th of September.

Thank you for your cooperation in supporting this important health initiative. For more information please go to www.health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination



WELFARE NEWS

Year 8 Students Discover Their Strengths in the MyStrengths Resilience Program

On June 16, Year 8 students took part in the MyStrengths Resilience Day, an engaging and insightful program designed to help students discover and understand their personal strengths while exploring Year 9 elective choices. As part of their Pastoral Care curriculum, students participated in a variety of sessions, including the MyStrengths seminar and faculty led elective previews that encouraged reflection, curiosity, and confidence.

The day began with students completing their personal MyStrengths Profile, identifying their top five character strengths and learning how these can be applied in academic, social, and career contexts. According to survey feedback, a significant majority of students rated the day as beneficial, with over 80% rating it 4 or 5 stars.

"I think today was good as it was! Having smaller groups helped us connect better with each teacher and the sessions were really interesting."

"Learning about the different electives helped me think more clearly about what I want to do in the future."

In the post-program survey:

- 100% of students said the elective sessions were explained clearly or very clearly.
- 94% found the day useful or extremely useful in helping them think about their subject choices.
- Over 70% said the MyStrengths session helped them understand their personal strengths either "mostly" or "a lot".
- Many students reported feeling more confident in choosing Year 9 electives.

"Yes, definitely—knowing my strengths made me feel better about myself and gave me more confidence."

"I didn't realise how much my strengths influence what I enjoy in school. It made me think about what electives would actually suit me."

Students particularly enjoyed the elective taster sessions, including interactive workshops from the HSIE, TAS, and CAPA faculties. Suggestions for improvement included longer elective sessions and more time to ask questions, which will be considered in planning for next year's program.

The day was not only about course selection but also about identity and resilience. Through honest discussion and positive psychology, students were encouraged to let go of unhelpful labels and embrace their unique potential.

We are proud of our Year 8 cohort for their openness, maturity, and thoughtful engagement in this important step on their high school journey.

WELFARE NEWS

Reminder: Teen Mental Health Matters - Parent Webinar

As part of our commitment to supporting student wellbeing, we'd like to remind families about the upcoming **Teen Mental Health Matters: For Parents** webinar. This session has been developed to help parents and carers better understand and respond to the mental health challenges many young people face today.

Adolescence can be a time of rapid change, and it's not uncommon for teens to experience stress, anxiety, or uncertainty as they navigate school, friendships, identity, and expectations. As educators, we see firsthand the crucial role that parents and carers play in supporting student wellbeing. However, we also understand that this can often feel overwhelming or confusing, especially when communication becomes difficult or signs of distress are subtle.

That's why this webinar has been designed with parents in mind. It offers:

- · Practical strategies to support your teen's mental health
- · Insight into the signs of common mental health concerns
- · Communication tips for building trust and openness
- · Guidance on when and how to seek further support

The session will be run by experienced mental health professionals and aims to empower parents with tools to respond with confidence, compassion, and clarity.

To express your interest, please respond to the school's recent communication or the link below. Final numbers will help us confirm participation and ensure the session best meets our school community's needs.

https://forms.gle/5UoMEdJRbQJH9doD9

Let's continue working together to build a safe and supportive environment where all young people can thrive.

HSIE HAPPENINGS

SUSTAINABLE OCEANS COMPETITION 2025

A number of Crestwood students recently competed in the Sustainable Oceans Competition on Education perfect. We are thrilled to announce the following four students achieved awards. Congratulations to Yug, Pranav, Kubilay and Hana.











Science matters.

Year 12 chemistry students engaged in exciting Ester Experimentation, exploring the synthesis of esters through chemical reactions. The hands-on experiments allowed students to observe the properties and characteristics of esters while enhancing their practical laboratory skills. This experience not only deepened their understanding of organic chemistry but also sparked their interest in real-world applications of these compounds.













BYJU'S

Ethanoic acid

Propanol Water Propyl - ethanoate

Science matters.







Year 11 Biologists have been hard at work at their depth study, combining their recently-gained knowledge of enzymes and their finely hones experimental skills to examine an age-old question - what's for desert? Testing how Junket tablets solidify milk under a variety of different conditions, there's been a lot of dairy-based science going on.





Science matters







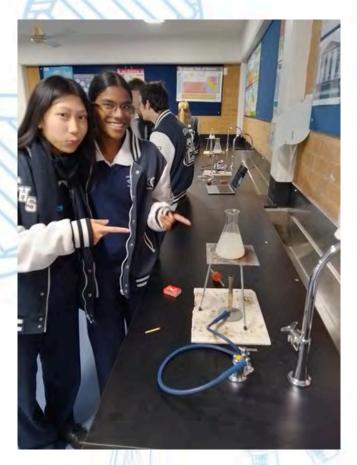




Science matters.







Yr 12 Biologists are examining the incidence and impacts of disease, and have been looking at microbes around us. This attempt to recreate the famous 'Pasteur's flask' experiment suggests our classrooms are less 'germy' than expected, but science isn't about instant results, so we continue to monitor.





ENGLISH & DRAMA NEWS

Congratulations Jack!

The English Faculty is thrilled to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of Jack Doyle from Year 9, who has won the 2025 Living Stories Western Sydney Writing Prize. Jack's work was judged against more than 500 entrants and will be featured in the 2025 Living Stories anthology publication.



This year, writers were asked to respond to the theme "Only I Can Say". Entries could take the form of a fiction short story (max 500 words), narrative non-fiction story (max 500 words), personal essay (max 500 words) or a poem (up to 25 lines).

The winners from each LGA will go to the next round of judging to vie for the overall prize. We wish Jack all the best for the next round of judging!

TAS Times



THAI BEEF SALAD



CINNAMON SCROLLS



SPONGE CAKE



SPINACH AND RICOTTA ROLLS

Nurturing Lifelong Skills in the Kitchen

This semester, our students in Stage 5 electives in Design and Technology - International Gourmet and Stage 5 Food Technology have been actively developing their practical food skills - learning everything from basic knife safety to preparing balanced meals. These hands-on sessions are not only teaching valuable cooking techniques but also building confidence, teamwork, and an understanding of nutrition. Many students have expressed pride in recreating recipes at home - why not ask them to cook for you this weekend? We encourage parents to continue supporting these efforts by involving their stuents in meal planning and preparation. Together, we're helping them build healthy habits and essential life skills that will last a lifetime.

TAS Times









COMPARISON OF HOME-MADE PIZZA VS FROZEN PIZZA



FETTUCINE BOSCAIOLA





CHICKEN PARMIGIANA AND SALAD

MATHS MUSINGS

Maths Olympiad

MATHEMATIC

On Thursday last week 8MAC, 7MAC and 7MAR participated in the second round of the Maths Olympiad. With 5 challenging problems to solve in 30 minutes, (without using a calculator), the students were frantically scribbling numbers on working out paper looking for patterns and testing theories. All students who participated received an AIM Award in recognition of their hard work in completing a wide variety of problem-solving activities as preparation. The next round will be held early next term in August.







PI Day

Pi Day is celebrated as an annual event where people learn about pi, talk about irrational numbers, recite



some of the many, many digits of pi and maybe even eat some pie. In America they celebrate Pi day on March 14th, as the first three digits of pie are 3.14 (March 14th), however in Australia, since we don't write the month first, we celebrate Pi Approximation Day which is 22/7 (22nd of July).

Our Year 8 students are currently studying circles and 9MAC did some investigating to discover Pi for themselves. They went out into the real world and found lots of circular objects and measured the circumference and then the diameter of each. By taking the circumference and dividing it by the diameter they discovered "Pi". Items included lids, bottles, hoses and even the memorial fountain at the front of the school.



<u>Pi Day</u>

Year 8 will be celebrating Pi day in Term 3 on 24/7 with lots of activities and competitions. Prizes will be awarded for the best entries so look out for more information in the next newsletter.



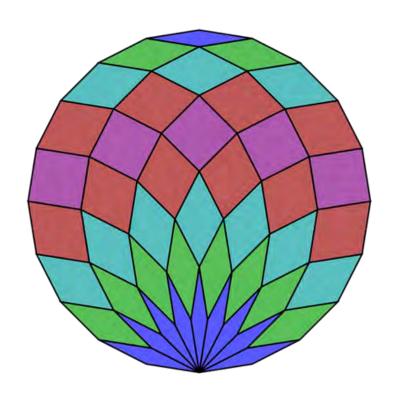






<u>Interesting Maths</u> <u>Fact</u>

As today is the 20th of June - did you know that a 20 twenty-sided shape is called an icosagon!



SFORT IEUS

Zone Athletics Carnival

We are thrilled to announce that over **80 students** were selected to represent our school at the Zone Athletics Carnival on **Thursday, 5th June, and Friday, 6th June**. From this event, **18 students qualified to represent our zone at the Sydney West Athletics Championship, which will be held on Wednesday, 6th August, and Thursday, 7th August 2025.**

We commend all students for their hard work and dedication during the carnival and wish our qualifying students the best of luck at the upcoming championship.

Sydney West Qualifiers are - Leonard Watson, John Cosgrove, Kai Eastwood, Marko Dimitrijevic, Ruhan Kalal, Isaac Wong, Cooper Hayman, Angus O'Donovan, Jazlyn Reid, Lily Golding, Kayley Reid, Ariana Azizi, Darius Palacios, Oliver Golding, Gil Lee, Luke Saitis, Thomas Schneider and Benjamin Duffield.

The 4 boys below have qualified for Sydney West for the 15s and 16s boys relays.







SFCIRT TILL













SFCRT NEUS

FUTSAL GALA DAY

On Tuesday, 11th June, our school sent both a boys and girls team to the Futsal Regional Championships Gala Day at Penrith Sports Centre. It was an exciting day full of fun, great skills, and good sportsmanship!

The boys team played really well and finished on top of their pool. They made it to the quarter-finals, where they had a close match against Mitchell High School. It was a tough game, and they lost 2-1, but they should be very proud of how they played.

The girls team also had a fantastic day. They won their pool and kept playing strong all the way to the final! In the final, they played against Pacific Hills. It was a tough game, and even though they didn't win, the girls showed great teamwork and effort.

Both teams did an amazing job and represented our school in a positive way. We are very proud of all the following players.

Grace Harrison Kahu Langi **Annalise Lekkas Elodie Buccini Grace Clau** Sybella Hayne Issac Lee **Brianna Rich** Soumil Bisht **Oliver Cernoch Audin Cosic** Liam Fuller **Koby Johnston Monique Lekkas Hunter Mateo Tamsyn Rose**





Well Done!

Peter Zhou







CONGRATULATIONS TO BYRON HIGGINS IN YEAR 9.

BYRON HAS BEEN SELECTED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE INDIGENOUS AND MULTICULTURAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM. HE HAS BEEN SELECTED IN THE NSW/ACT INDIGENOUS TEAM AND WILL TRAIN AND PLAY ALONGSIDE INDIGENOUS 14-16 YEAR OLDS FROM ACROSS THE REGIONS.

FROM THIS BYRON WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE SELECTED IN THE AUSTRALIAN FLYING BOOMERANGS TEAM TO PLAY AGAINST THE WORLD TEAM LATER IN THE YEAR.



SUPPORT UNIT Newsletter









Recording Time in Maths

Math games have made the topic of measuring time for the LSMAB class very engaging. The students worked in pairs and used stop-watches and other alternative devices to measure how long it takes to complete a game. An alternative game was also created for students with vision impairment. Once they collected their time measurement data, they collectively shared their time on a spreadsheet and converted the minutes into seconds. It was a fun and memorable lesson.

Stage 5 Community Engagement

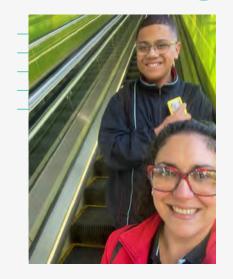
The students from Stage 5 have been going out every fortnight and are becoming very skilled with their travelling app, TripView Lite. Last week, the class collected shredded paper from the library and donated it to the animals at Kellyville Pets. The class was excited to see all the Cavoodle puppies and many other animals. It has been decided that they will take shredded paper to Kellyville Pets as often as possible.

Social Club at the Support Unit

Every Tuesday at Lunch time the students are participating in the Social Club activities run by Miss Carden. The activities include, Virtual Reality, boardgames, drawing activities and art classes. This club was created to increase social engagement and build friendships in the Support Unit.

SUPPORT UNIT

Newsletter





















WINTER WARMERS



For the winter holidays, the library will be having a special Winter Warmers borrowing competition. In week 10, borrow at least one book to read in the holidays. The first 50 students to enter will receive hot chocolate and a treat. Happy reading!

BENEFITS OF READING

If you are having a hard time understanding complicated things, reading can help you strengthen your mind.





BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Always and forever, Lara Jean by Jenny Han Lara Jean is having the best senior year, and theres still so much to look forward to. Then she'll be off to college at a school close enough for her to come home to on the weekends. Life couldn't be more perfect! Until she gets some unexpected news. Now she must rethink all her plans. But when your heart and head are saying different things, which one do you listen to?

Careers News



your future

Year 10 Career Education CAREER PLANNING & SUBJECT SELECTIONS

During our Year 10 Careers Lessons this term we are completing the unit 'You and Your Career'. Students have looked at trends for Generation Z and Alpha using graphics prepared by the McCrindle research group and how the world of work is changing and future forecasts. Having an understanding of the skills and attributes for the future is important and also having an understanding of what abilities they have and need will also be to their advantage. This unit also enables students to complete their Career plan using their research to make informed decisions about their future pathway.

The unit steps students through the career exploration process to help them identify their interests, map these interests against relevant careers, explore these careers and then learn how to optimise their chances of employment through further education and training. It exposes them to careers that reflects the type of person they are. They will use this information to prepare their career plan this term, subject choices for senior school and a resume next term.

Knowing yourself

Your likes/dislikes, skills and values

Finding Out

Exploring what is out there

Taking Action Working towards your goals

Making Decisions

Comparing options

Job Jump

Students also signed up to jobjump which is for 4 years and will entitle students to free up to date careers news and information, resume help, and career and job information. As a parent it is a great unit to talk about with your child and an avenue to open up discussion about what your child may be interested in and in the future and what ideas they have regarding their career planning. The Career Planning model with the student is shown below and taught in conjunction with the SMARTER system for goal planning.



The SMARTER system can be useful for planning your career goals:

Specific: be as clear as you can and avoid ambiguous statements.

Measurable: so you can see what you have achieved.

Achievable: provides motivation, but also keep your goals reachable.

Realistic & Relevant: be reasonable and avoid the realms of fantasy.

Timely: create timeframes for completing steps, for example, doing short courses or talking with someone about the skills required for a particular job.

Evaluate: make sure your goals feel right for you and help you make the changes you want.

Reviewable: do not set your goals in concrete; be flexible.

: Careers Resources

- Careers Bullseyes (Subject Posters)
- **Ⅲ UAC Steps to Uni Book**
- **UAC** Subject Compass

 O pts
- 2025 EVET and SBAT presentation.pptx
- E 2026 TVET Guide
 O pts

Decisions

Year 10 Students are currently in the making decision (comparing options) getting themselves ready for subject selection. They have been provided with the following resources to guide their career pathway planning which are easily accessed from CANVAS (careers class).

Information regarding VET courses will be provided as it becomes available. The process for EVET/TVET applications is separate to the subject choices they study here at school and will be available soon when it is released. The due date will be later in Term 3.





For those icy cold mornings...



Beat the chill with our ultra-soft scarves, available in rich claret (burgundy/maroon) and classic navy—perfectly paired with our matching navy knitted gloves.

Available for only \$10 each while stock lasts!



Closed for the Holidays

The uniform shop will be closed from Friday 4th July 2025. Normal trading hours of 7.30am - 11.00am will resume on Thursday, 24th July 2025.

Orders placed during the holidays will be available for collection on Thursday, 24 July 2025, from the uniform shop until 11:00am, and from the canteen thereafter.

In the meantime, you're welcome to reach out to us via email with any questions you may have.

Our email address: crestwoodhs-uni@2153pandc.onmicrosoft.com

Website: https://crestwood-high-school-uniform-shop-107119.square.site/



PROGRAMS







Sydney Adoption and Education Centre 201 Rookwood Road, Yagoona NSW 2199

Sessions include:

- Walk through the shelter and see our work in action
- Fun and interactive activities focused on animals
- Creating animal enrichment toys
- Animal Welfare focused encounters
- Learn how to be an animal advocate in your community!



RSPCA NSW Education Team

- **** 02 9782 4478
- education@rspcansw.org.au
- A https://events.humanitix.com/host/rspca-nsw