



The Cromer Scoop

News. Weather. Sport. Science. Tech. Dancing. Art. Your Favourites.

GLASS CEILING BROKEN IN CROMER SCIENCE LABS

Winning with Women in Science

Reported by Claudia Schmidt

The deafening shatter of smashing glass could be heard coming from the Cromer Campus Science labs earlier this week in relation to the innovative GEMS program offered by the school.

GEMS is run by Science staff at Cromer and is dedicated to the advancement of girls taking up science and maths careers in the future. "We've created this program because we want to increase the amount of women in STEM and science. Both genders deserve the right to learn about something they are passionate about, and in some cases, their passion is science. When these students leave school, the percentage goes down to 75% males and 23% females. We want to expand the numbers of women in STEM," explained Mr Malpass, a science teacher at the school.

The program is seeing significant success with reports of extreme and eccentric experiments taking place regularly. The program has

worked with robotics, engineered catapult and designed pendulums that create art. Students are still unclear about the source of the deafening shatter of glass, however, it is largely believed to be symbolic.

"I think that it is an amazing program that encourages girls to branch out and take on science because when you think of a scientist you think of a man in a white coat with frizzy white hair. We want to change that image for anyone working in science, including women," explained a Year 11 student who expressed her enjoyment at being part of the GEMS program.

Science will play a huge role in our future and will continue to grow in large amounts in different areas. It is incredibly important that science is encouraged and valued as much as it clearly is at Cromer Campus.

The Gems program meets every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon in the Science Block.



Year 11 GEM program members with Head of Science Ms Mac, a teacher who is passionate about the GEM program she created for girls interested in science, mathematics and engineering at Cromer Campus.



Editorial Thoughts...

By Zoe Scholtens

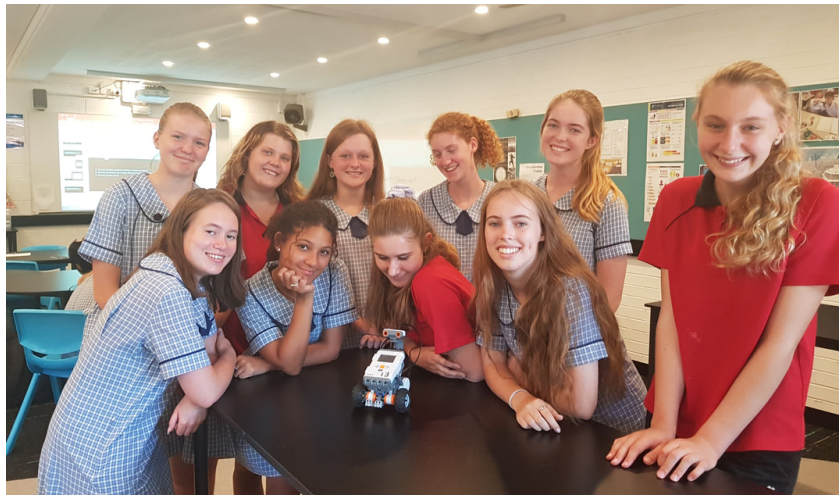
For many of us, it was only a few years back when our parents stepped into the science lab and it is interesting to see how much it has changed over time. "I specifically remember how iodine turns blue in the presence of starch. I also remember one day we got a worksheet about sacrificial anodes and I remembered filling it out and thinking it was really interesting. I remember many of my science classes more even 25 years later. Then there were also science experiments in Year 7" my father, James Scholtens, said of his experiences.

In some ways, my experience isn't much different, but the opportunities to use technology and discuss modern ideas and innovations have definitely changed massively. It is especially exciting to hear about the GEMS program as reported on by Claudia Schmidt. Overall, it is clear that Cromer values science!

Last week we asked our readers:

How do you think science has evolved?

See their responses in our 'Your Say' letter section.



Empowered students from the GEMS program. One said:

"Science is always evolving. It's always changing and developing in its own way. It is also just really fun doing experiments and recording data and drawing graphs and tables. You get to see the fun side of science in our GEMS program here at Cromer"



jointhedebate

HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK SCIENCE HAS EVOLVED?

"I think science is an important part of school education, as it teaches students the importance of measuring and conducting conclusions and other important life skills. But science has changed a lot, because of safety and women. Women are now able to work in the science force providing more opportunities for young minds to be inspired. It has had a positive, influential change." - Igna Red, resident to Cromer.

"I think science has changed to much, it's created a negative impact on the way kids are learning in science. I remember being so excited to walk into the 'science lab' to complete another fun experiment, but now my son Richie Blackson comes home and moans and groans that he has science. What happened to dissecting frogs? All my son does is workbook revision which isn't fun for him. There needs to be another change, NOW." - Herald Blackson, father of student at Cromer.

- Addressed to Herald Blackson:
 "Stop being so negative. Students are required to learn these type of things so they can perform experiments like dissecting frogs. Without revision, how are your children supposed to memorise the skills in tests if they have only learnt it once? Students have to cover the boring stuff first, even if it takes up a whole year, that means they will have another full year of fun experiments. Science isn't always about having fun. It is about being safe and responsible and when you do these two things, that makes every experiment fun. Science is an important subject and nothing needs to change," - Igna Red, resident.

Save your thoughts for next week!
cc@nsw.gov.mrhillsmithheadquarters.com.au



A Dancing Interview with Principal Justin Hong

Reported by Kristina Kovacevic

What do you think about the new dance program?

I think it's awesome and great I want to make sure everyone is doing an extracurricular activity they know.

How many competitions and performances will you be attending?

I will go to as many as possible I love to see what you guys are doing and I want to see you turn into the dancers that you want to be.

Is it going to keep on going?

hope so, it's a great way to be creative and leads to job opportunities and it's a fun experience for the girls.

Will it become a Cromer campus sport?

We Have discussed it, it didn't have enough number before but now there is enough, it's a great idea and there's approval of sport possibility.

Do you think this program will have a positive impact on the school?

Absolutely, All the programs have appositve impact and dance has there own individual one and I am certain that this has a positive impact.



Keeping up with the Contemporaries at Cromer

How is the Cromer campus dance program keeping up to standards?

Reported by Isla Herriot

The Cromer Campus dance program has secretly been discussing major changes for upcoming years, and we have an insight into what exactly is being offered to our students.

Currently a year 7-10 contemporary dance ensemble, that has just recently been formed, is preparing for upcoming competitions but there are plans to expand this program. "We all would love to extend the dance here at Cromer and are planning to next year but in order to do even more than that we need interest from more students," stated Jane Dean, head of CAPA faculty. "Next year we will have three opportunities for students, that will be the current years 7-10 dance ensemble and an additional dance elective for years 8 and 9".

Many teachers agree with this and would be elated to see big improvements. Just recently Miss Burnett was introduced to Cromer taking over from the former dance teacher, some students explained how they are very happy with the fresh change and are excited about the changes she has brought to the program. Miss Burnett specialises in more contemporary styles of dance so we have heard that there won't be many changes in the dance styles in the very near future, but it is always a possibility.

Whilst the majority are happy with the upcoming changes some aren't satisfied and want to see more dance groups/ensembles. A few dancers from the contemporary ensemble aren't content with just one group as they believe we need more styles and groups.

One major improvement which Deputy Principal Jane Dean wants very much to see occur here is the involvement of boys in the dance program. Some say that we need to equalise the amount of genders and many people want to see an all boys dance group here. It is a significant flaw that needs to be fixed!



Boys bounced out from dance!



The life of Li Cunxin or Mao's Last Dancer, is studied in English classes at Cromer. Perhaps his inspiring dance journey will inspire more male students to pursue their passion for performance.

Reported by Maya Gardner

At the recent Cromer dance audition only one boy auditioned and was unsuccessful in his attempt to join the team. What is happening to all the boys who enjoyed dance so much in primary school? Have they all disappeared or have their confidence levels just gone down? Why aren't the teachers encouraging the boys? Why didn't the one and only boy who auditioned make it into the troupe? Is discrimination taking place during dance auditions? I investigated these crucial questions.

"Most people agree that a larger amount of interest in dance from boys at the school would really add some

variety to the dance program," explains Miss Jane Dean, addressing the issue and absolutely rejecting any claims that discrimination is taking place in the dance faculty. So what is the issue?

If the single male auditioner made it into the team then it would assuredly increase the confidence of other boys. It would encourage all the other boys who loved dance as well to keep doing it. When questioning the other boys at Cromer about their lack of representation in the dance club they stated that: "most boys want their own dance crew for hip hop and street styles and that isn't really offered". Perhaps with the employment of Miss Burnett the organisation of hip hop battles and dance performances may occur and attract more males to a sport where their participation is dwindling.

Successful School Camp Hit the Bullseye!



The 2019 Year 7 camp truly hit a bullseye for everyone involved. As several year 7 Cromer students participate in archery among other activities.

Reported by Tana Seghers, Isabelle Goodman, Jilly Locke-Nguyen and Alec Huxley

This year's Cromer Campus Year 7's recently went to the Morriset Outdoor Education Camp. The entire cohort participated in many breathtaking and exciting activities that they all enjoyed, all the while gaining a sense of the culture at Cromer Campus. The school decided to take the new students on camp early in the year so that they could make new friends, learn the importance of teamwork and responsibility, as well as having fun in many different activities including: canoeing, rock climbing and the infamous mud world, just to name a few. Our journalists sat down with a variety of the people involved in the camp, from teachers, year advisors and students, and we can truly conclude that this camp was a huge success!

Intriguing Interviews!

This week, we interviewed our Year Advisor; Mrs Francis and asked her a few questions about how she found our school camp.

Izzy: Did you find this year's school camp successful?

Mrs Francis: I thought the school camp was amazingly successful because it was a great opportunity for students to meet new people.

Izzy: Why was camp so early in the year? Is there any particular reason?

Mrs Francis: It is so that you meet new friends early in the year, because it is hard starting high school, but even harder if you do it without any friends to support you.

Izzy: Why was school camp at Morisset?

Mrs Francis: I don't choose the venue, the school does, but for certain reasons, such as the heat, I think we will have our camp somewhere else next year.

Deemed a success by our year advisor, she said she was particularly proud of the relationships we built over the two day camp.



Images after the infamous Mudworld, a controversially messy camp activity.

Next, we interviewed a student who attended the camp; Ben Comber.

Alec: How did you find camp this year? Was it fun or do you think it was a waste of time?

Ben: The camp were great and the donuts and slushies were awesome! My favourite activity was the Dual Flying Fox and I loved Mudworld!

Alec: What do you think the teachers should improve for next years' year 7's?

Ben: Camp was awesome but I wish that I could have done all the activities again and again!



Students learned to work together and had a lot of fun doing it!

How were the activities?

The activities were great and seemed to be enjoyed by all. Some of the favourites were high ropes and mud world. "My favourite activity was mud world" said Ella Duncombe, a year 7 student. "Because it was really messy and fun." Another Year 7 who went on camp named Oscar Flogel said "I liked super drop because it gave me an adrenalin rush!"

Overall, Cromer students loved the experience and gained some important friendships which will hopefully carry them through their entire high school experience. We believe most of Year 7 would definitely recommend the experience to the cohort of next year.

Chaotic Connection Crisis at Cromer

No internet for days, Tech Team don't know the memeing of the malfunction.



A strained server room at Cromer Campus.

Reported by Poppy Pickering, Ashton Duryea, Jessica Davies, Levi Camilleri and Michal Tams

Students hoping to use technology at Cromer have been experiencing intense difficulties recently with internet connections in crisis, smart boards breaking and loan laptops lagging. The Tech Team has been working around the clock to resolve these complex issues but some believe students accessing memes in massive numbers may be the issue.

One anonymous student felt very limited by the patchy internet coverage at Cromer; “Have you experienced the outrageously poor internet in some of the blocks at this school? In my maths class we have to go down to the library to use our computers instead of staying in our classroom to do our work, what next? I can’t even access my favourite memes in class!”

This is a significant issue as we aim to bring our learning deeper into the 21st century and prepare students for the future. Technology at Cromer Campus has definitely improved over the past few years but the internet is, as you can see, still a problem. The tech guys have been coined 10 out of 10 in their work at Cromer by several staff and students, making things a lot better. Some of the mishaps over the past few weeks have included everything from broken projectors to flawed connections to broken logins.

One incident, involving a broken projector caused a food tech class to move rooms more than three times. Many teachers also complained about the smart boards in the school. Miss Leeson jokingly parodied the name of the technological device; “Smart board? If my board makes tea I’ll start to call it smart!”.



One of the memes which caused the internet at Cromer to Crash when hundreds of students rushed to access it.

Despite accusations flying that technology is in a state of crisis at Cromer, the blame may lie in two unexpected places. Cromer's Tech Team has expressed that issues with projectors are caused from people leaving them on and causing the projectors globe to blow. Another major issue is that students are rushing to be the first to download the latest memes and this is absorbing a significant amount of bandwidth.

Perhaps misuse of technology and human error is the true issue behind the chaotic connection crisis at Cromer!

Every issue that arises has been resolved by our fantastic Tech Team. But what problem will unfold next? Will there be problems like this year or will the internet hold up and stay strong? We hope our Tech Team stays vigilant and is able to continually respond to these modern issues.

Where to go this weekend?

Chocolate high tea

27 O'Connell St, Sydney NSW 2000

Mmmm yum! Already known for delicious high tea, the Fax Bar has now got a new item on its menu... Chocolate high tea! Delicious items include handmade passionfruit lollipops, chocolate mud cake, chocolate mousse, caramel popping candy tarts, Oreo macarons and chocolate chip scones with cacao cream and strawberry jam. Doesn't that sound amazing?

At a great price of \$49, come quickly because it only ends on the 30th of April!

Catmosphere Cat Cafe

The Catmosphere Cat Cafe has super cute cats and kittens and is a great place to be for everyone who loves cats. You can get drinks like ice tea or hot chocolate.

Gabby Watts went to the Cat Cafe in January. She posted on TripAdvisor, 'The kittens were an absolute dream and the delicious drinks were brought to us by the members of staff.'

You can easily get a B-line and a train to the Cat Cafe from the Northern Beaches, or you can drive there.

Daily Laughs



Cromer's Creative Craze



Some of the amazing art at Cromer Campus this year.

With the largest influx of Year 7s yet, we have had a massive increase in creativity at Cromer. This is a double edged sword however, with positives such as an increased passion for art and negatives like the need for more artistic resources to cater to our growing school. We interviewed Miss Marsters, an art teacher to see how they feel about the creative craze sweeping Cromer High.



A Picasso inspired artwork, evidence of the variety of techniques studied at Cromer.

Excitement circulating classroom teacher

Miss McConnell and Miss Masters are particularly enthusiastic about our latest project as they would like to show the school what art is really about and how it can be a real career.

“I just want my students to appreciate visual arts and how important it is” Ms Marsters conveyed openly. Certain students are exhilarated for this subject in visual arts and cannot wait for this topic to begin. This field incorporates continuous line drawings, portraits and the studying of types of art and techniques used in art.”



One of the breathtaking anonymous works at Cromer.

divulged this information during a private interview, and didn't intend on revealing that kind of gossip but it accidentally came out whilst we were on the topic of personal art works.

It is rumoured that The Louvre has contacted this anonymous artist teacher to organise an exhibition later this year in Paris.

Reserving Resources

The resources used at Cromer Campus in visual arts are typically high quality and highly reliable, but with more students enrolling in the school could the standards of our equipment decrease? It is not likely that our school will be funded further in art and with 20% of teachers spending more than \$1000 of their own money every year on stationary, it is not likely that they will pay for supplies. As art costs larger and larger amounts of money each year, the question remains, what can we do to help our school with this artsy issue? Firstly, students and teachers need to take better care of our existing art resources.

We will continue to update our readers with tips for how to sustain our stationary supplies.

Next Van Gogh

Van Gogh - unknown, unappreciated and unacknowledged. Could this be one of our own teachers in disguise as a unassuming educator? Rumours have circulated of incredible artworks being created at Cromer with no-one knowing the artist behind the work.

Theories abound that the only possible explanation is a teacher artist who is keeping their talent secret. "I'm in Room C005 for my morning Literacy Group and I've noticed new artworks appearing overnight. There is no way it can be a student, which leaves only one explanation" explained a year 9 student.

Don't be fooled, this teacher master artist has had the covert location of their untold gallery revealed which is and has been developing, over the last two years. Mr Hong



A talented student who may be affected by the threat to resources at Cromer.

Cromer Campus Carnival's Courageous Champions



A fierce Under 14 Girls Freestyle heat at the Zone Carnival last year.

Reported by Daniel Comber, Elliot Phillips, Mihi Green, Sophia Dhiman,

On the 5th of March, the annual swimming carnival will be held at the Warringah Aquatic Centre with students fighting for seats on the first bus out of the school. We spoke to some of the recent winners of the carnival races including Jaydon Dolahenty who said: "I think there will be a new record this year for many of the races". Others said, "There's no way there is going to be a new record this year considering the past year's competitors and how good they were". Mr Hanna also informed us that there will be an exciting new prize for any records this year. One of the prizes is a \$100 Rebel voucher if you break a record but it has been reported that if you beat a record by 5 seconds you can win a 1969 V8 Turbo Mustang.

Following this up in April is the athletics carnival at the NSW Academy of Sport which is in Narrabeen. The past generations of children at Cromer Campus have seen the students become better and better by the year. This year there are new students in year 7 who could make old records become new records, with some lightning fast running, powerful throwing, agility and high jumps. This is going to be a stunning 2019 athletics carnival.

The final carnival at Cromer Campus is the Cross



The reported prize for breaking records at the carnival this year.

Country in May. In the last few years at Cromer the cross country has been arranged by the teachers but this year someone lucky in year 8 has got the opportunity to design the course for the whole of the school and it will be interesting to find out how extreme the course will be. Early rumours suggest that the course might even travel across the harbour bridge. Some people are even arguing that the Cross Country Path will travel across Uluru. This requires further research in subsequent issues of The Cromer Scoop.



A nervous group of Cromer boys waiting to compete in their races at the swimming carnival

At Cromer, the staff and the students take their sport really seriously and here's what PDHPE teacher Mr Vanderwallen had to say "Sport and Physical Education are strengths of Cromer Campus and we are so proud of the achievements our past students have made".

Miss Pontifex added, "I am very excited to point out how enthusiastic all the kids look when it's their sports lesson, I think this year will be a very exciting year for all the students". We also spoke to some students of other age groups to tell us what they like the most about all the carnivals and they said "We like missing out on school time, yummy canteen food and a whole day full of either running around or swimming our best".

We wish Cromer Campus students all the best as they head into this exciting time of the year and look forward to seeing them give all the other high schools some good competition at the Zone Carnivals and also some rivalries to be made.

Thank you from the Editorial Team
We hope you enjoyed this edition of the Cromer Scoop as much as we enjoyed putting it together! Our hard work, journalistic integrity and commitment to finding the truth are what made this news report possible, however, our creativity is what made this news report engaging and sensational! Thank you for taking the time to read about our fantastic school!

