

ENRICHMENT @ POMONA

At Pomona State School we extend our students and nurture their individual strengths and interests. We offer a range of enrichment opportunities for our students across a broad range of areas.

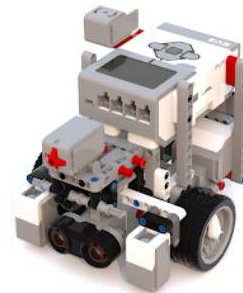


#gldtechschool



STEAM XPOMONA is our whole-school STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics). This program ensures all of our student have access to robotics, coding, Mathematics, Design and Digital Technologies and rich Arts activities.

For this reason, we have added another 15 EV3 robots to our fleet. We now have two sets of 6 robots for class borrowing in the upper school. This week 5CL spent two sessions transforming a kit into a robot and then programming it.



If you would like your child to participate in any of the subjects listed in my previous email, **please visit the online Parent Payment System to make a direct payment to UNSW Global**. The Parent Payment System is a simple and secure online payment service specifically for parents to purchase ICAS Assessments.

The web link is: <https://shop.unswglobal.com.au/pages/pps>

Our school's unique access code is: GVF330

Online payment closes Friday, **17 July 2020**.



Our coding clubs are part of a nationwide network to teach coding to children. The projects offered teach children how to program by showing them how to make computer games, animations and websites. Code Club and Scratch Club is about fun, creativity, and learning through exploring.

Minecraft CoLAB is so busy at present, and many students from year 1 to year 6 are also doing Minecraft EDU projects in class. Great work from Year 3 and 4 students who explored and built the setting for the book they're reading in English.



ECO SCHOOL



As a bronze level Eco School, we compost our food waste, manage our recyclable waste and maintain our grounds. Members will meet on Wednesday to take nominations for the Executive Committee election. We are planning to fundraise for new compost bins.

Our fundraising is underway for this year and you can now purchase one of our large Eco Bags for \$20 through our online Tuckshop ordering system.

HIGH PERFORMING STUDENTS

Students with an identified aptitude may be invited to participate in addition, targeted programs which include:

- Extension Mathematics
- Extension Robotics
- Extension Coding
- Extension STEM
- Readers' Cup Competitions
- Annual Mathematics Olympiad (host school)
- Annual Maths Tournament

MATHEMATICS EXTENSION

Places for the Mathematics Extension program are highly competitive as we can only take a limited number of students. To select students, we use data from a range of standardised tests to rank student performance.

Invitations to participate have been sent home and the students selected students have begun attending a 30 minute Mathematics Extension class each week.

ROBOTICS EXTENSION



Our Robotics Extension program is for students who have attained the required level of coding knowledge to transfer their skills to the LEGO Mindstorms robotics program. Invitations to participate will be sent home this week.



Next term we have 8 teams competing at the international RoboRAVE competition. Challenges will include Maze, Line Follow, LEGO Sumo and Open Sumo. The competition has been postponed until the first weekend of the September School break – 19th – 20th September.



POMONA'S READERS' CUP

Eighteen students from year 6 have elected to enter our Pomona Mini Readers' Cup. From this group we will select our team for the Sunshine Coast Readers' Cup Competition. They will begin reading 5 books at the end of this term and compete in May at Immanuel Lutheran College at Buderim.

The competition is organised by the Queensland Branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia. It is a state-wide competition for young readers. Teams of four students together read a set of books, and then compete with other school teams to answer quiz questions from the books.

Winning teams from each region will compete at the CBCA Qld Readers Cup State Finals as part of StoryArts Festival.

The Readers' Cup competitions challenge students to read widely, work collaboratively in a team and continue developing a love of reading. It allows readers to compete at a regional and state level similar to sporting competitions and to meet other students with an equal passion for books.

For more information visit: <http://www.readerscup.org.au/>

EVERY STUDENT

All students have opportunities to participate in:

- Online learning at home – Reading Eggs, Mathletics and Typing Tournament
- STEAM XPOMONA STEAM Days - each term, classes participate in a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics Day where they are given Digital and/or Design problems to solve,
- Premier's Reading Challenge
- Premier's Coding Challenge
- Moonhack
- International Competitions for Schools (ICAS) tests in English, Mathematics, Digital Technologies, Science, Writing and Spelling
- Science Week Expo
- Eco School – Eco Explorers (Years 3 – 4 litter patrol) and Eco Warriors (Year 5 and 6 Recycling and Composting)



ONLINE RESOURCES FOR HOME

- To make the most of your child's computer time at home, here are links to great learning resources:
 - Scratch coding <https://scratch.mit.edu>
 - Reading Eggs <http://readingeggs.com.au>
 - Mathletics <http://au.mathletics.com>

Your child's school subscription to Reading Eggs and Mathletics entitles you to online access at home.

If you need login information for your child, please see their class teacher who will be happy to provide you with these details.