



## On Patrol with Community Education - January 2023

Welcome to our **Term 1 School Newsletter** from the Surf Life Saving NSW Community Education team!

Our mission is to equip all communities with the confidence, knowledge, resources and tools to prevent drownings & create safe, fun, welcoming & enjoyable beach side experiences.



# Beach & Coastal Safety Resource Hub

Did you know that an understanding of ocean safety can reduce a child's drowning risk and provide them with skills that may one day save their life? Want to learn more? You can easily access and download a vast array of content that supports beach and coastal safety education for your students on our <a href="Beach & Coastal Safety Resource Hub">Beach & Coastal Safety Resource Hub</a>



Here you'll find resources and programs for both Primary & Secondary students plus lots of coastal safety information.

Our search function is super easy to use:

- I am a...
- I want to...
- Find it for me..

beachsafetvhub.org.a



# Beach Safety Tip!

Rips are one of the greatest and most common hazards on our beaches. Knowing what a rip current is, how to spot one and how to avoid one is key to staying safe at the beach.

HINT: Always spend time checking the water before you go in. Look for any of these signs of a rip: deeper, darker water; fewer breaking waves; rippled surface and/or foaming discoloured water heading out to sea...and ALWAYS SWIM BETWEEN THE RED & YELLOW FLAGS AT A PATROLLED BEACH!



To learn more about rip currents and to share this information with your students jump onto this page on our Hub: What is a rip current?



### Why Are Our School Run Programs Important?

Every NSW child should have the opportunity to learn vital beach safety skills and knowledge. The school setting is the perfect environment for lifesaving skills. Knowledge of basic water safety skills can significantly reduce the risk of drowning, enhance community safety and build resilient children.

On our <u>Beach & Coastal Safety & Resource Hub</u> you can register your school for these free programs available in 2023:

**Beach to Bush:** our very popular surf education program is now in its 30<sup>th</sup> year.

Our surf lifesavers love sharing their beach safety knowledge with rural and remote primary students in NSW schools They will be heading "bush" over 3 weeks from 6th-24th November 2023. You can check out the highlights of our 2022 program <a href="here">here</a> where we met over 10,000 primary students in regional areas of NSW.

We're bringing you a brand new program this year so if your primary school would like to be part these **FREE** sessions you can register <u>here</u>.



Big Beach Week: we bring you a whole week of FREE beach and water safety activities to help your students prepare for summer!

What does the week look like? Students can watch livestreams directly from the beach to learn about lifeguards & livesavers, they will learn about marine creatures and waterways safety and can also partiticate in our competitions. This program is open to all NSW schools and is scheduled over a week from 27<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December. You can learn more about this program and submit an EOI here.



### Whats coming up this year?

We've been busy planning our year and we are very happy to announce that this year we are launching our brand new **BEACH LIFE CHALLENGE GAME**. This is a great opportunity for your students to learn about the beach, ocean, inland waters and explore environments while in the classroom or at home.

Coming soon is our brand new LIFESAVER @ MY SCHOOL & MEET A LIFESAVER programs which will be launched prior to the start of summer. Plus we will have SECONDARY UNIT OUTLINES available later this year – these are aligned with the NSW curriculum and focus being safe at the beach.

We'll keep you updated on the launch of these opportunities for your schools through our newsletters closer to the launch dates.



### Fishy Fact!

Why do we have a cow on our <u>Beach & Coastal Safety Resource Hub</u>? Jump in and have a look" Learn about marine creatures that live in the ocean and beaches (beachsafetyhub.org.au)



MISSED ONE OF OUR PREVIOUS SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS? No problem, you can access all the newsletters on our Hub:

NSW Teachers School Newslette

Next Newsletter

Our next On Patrol Newsletter will be sent to you at the start of Term 2 2023.

### Stay in the loop

You are welcome to sign up to receive our *On Patrol Newsletter*. We will keep you updated on how to access our free resources, what's new, any exciting programs we have developed and any news items especially for teachers. Please sign up here: <a href="https://bit.ly/SLSNSWNewsletter">https://bit.ly/SLSNSWNewsletter</a>

"Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere."

### **Contact Us**

# Want to know more? Community Education Team Surf Life Saving NSW P 0447 878 024 E community@surflifesaving.com.au W www.beachsafetyhub.org.au/

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