



# Boulder Primary School Newsletter

## Term 3, Week 4 2023

STEM is an approach to learning and development that integrates the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful STEM learning centre here at Boulder Primary. The global economy is constantly changing, and current jobs are disappearing due to automation, with new jobs emerging every day because of technological advances. The continual advances in technology are changing the way students learn, connect, and interact every day. Skills developed by students through STEM provide them with the foundation to succeed at school and beyond. STEM empowers individuals with the skills to succeed and adapt to this changing world.

Through STEM, our students will have the opportunity to develop key skills including:

- problem solving
- creativity
- critical analysis
- teamwork
- independent thinking
- initiative
- communication
- digital literacy

Mrs Jennie McMeeken  
Deputy Principal

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 14th August - Friday 18th August  
Year 6 School Camp

Friday 18th August  
Assembly Room 5

Monday 21st August  
Book Week  
Read, Grow & Inspire

Friday 25th August  
Book Week Parade

## WHY STEM MATTERS

STEM qualifications and skills are **essential** to Australia's productivity, innovation and success.

**IN THE NEXT 15 YEARS:**

- ✓ some routine manual jobs will be lost to automation
- ✓ current jobs will be transformed
- ✓ new jobs will be created.

**TO BE COMPETITIVE WHEN YOU ENTER THE WORKFORCE YOU NEED:**

**STEM qualifications:** Gaining academic and VET qualifications increases job opportunities

**STEM capabilities:** Curiosity, independent thinking, logical reasoning, collaboration, strong communication, creativity, problem solving, entrepreneurship and digital technology skills are highly desired and transferable.

### HOW THE JOB MARKET IS CHANGING:

**50%**  
of current jobs with skill shortages are in STEM fields.

**EMPLOYERS EXPECT THEIR NEED FOR STEM PROFESSIONALS TO INCREASE IN THE NEXT FIVE TO TEN YEARS.**

**75%**  
of all new jobs will require skills in STEM.

**IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS**  
it is predicted that demand will rise for:

professional, scientific and technical services:  
**↑ 14%**

health care:  
**↑ 20%**

University graduates:  
**↑ 49%**

VET graduates:  
**↑ 53%**

**90%**  
of jobs will need digital skills in the next 2 to 5 years.

### WHY YOU NEED TO ACT NOW:

**One third** of 15 year olds do not have the STEM skills that employers want.

**58%** of current students under 25 are studying for jobs that will be radically changed by automation.

For more information visit [education.wa.edu.au/STEM](https://education.wa.edu.au/STEM) or talk with your course counsellor.

Sources:  
The New Work Order: Emerging young Australians have skills and experience for the jobs of the future, not the past (2016), Foundation for Young Australians.  
Australia's STEM Workforce: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (2016), Office of the Chief Scientist, March 2016.  
The New Skills Big data reveals the skills you need for the jobs of the future (2016), Foundation for Young Australians.  
STEM Education and the Workplace (2017), Office of the Chief Scientist.  
STEM Skills in the Workplace: What do employers want? (2018), Office of the Chief Scientist.

# Proud History, From the Deputy Principal

Boulder Primary School has an excellent tag line – proud history, great future. The school has just entered its 126<sup>th</sup> year of operation, and in its current state, the future has never been brighter.

The building behind me was built 30 years ago, in 1993. Had you walked into it this time last year, you would have transported back to that time. The students of Boulder Primary School are students who always show our values of Courage, Inclusion and Respect. With 75% of jobs in the next 10 years requiring STEM Competencies, it struck me that our students deserved a 21<sup>st</sup> century learning space, to grow their skills in Literacy, Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. The bones of the building held a lot of potential, and these two ideas came together to form the vision of Ngurra Nintipayi – a learning hub to support engaging and innovative learning experiences for students and families in the Boulder area for many years to come.

We approached KCGM in early 2020. This was before the pandemic hit Australia, and before Northern Star Resources acquired the Super Pit outright. From the beginning, the Social Performance team of Chad Menzies, Claire Weir and Lucy Dorotich have been exemplary to deal with and their support has been pivotal in this project becoming a reality. I have appreciated their honesty, with Chad telling me early on to temper my expectations, but hold faith that this project would be realised. I'd like to acknowledge the tireless work of Claire Weir, who has single-handedly made a lot of what you will see today happen. The support of Northern Star Resources is sizable - \$250 000, which is more than the yearly operational budget of the school. It is an understatement to say that we are appreciative of Northern Star Resources for their support of our community.

Gaining funds is one thing. Actually utilising the funds effectively is quite another. To do this, the team of Lauren Sullivan and Damian Perella from H&H architects have been essential. This is Damian's first project, and once you walk inside, I think you'll agree that he has a bright future as an architect. We gave a very short overview of what we were looking for – three to four learning spaces and the ability to see the whole space from the front door. To turn these simple instructions to the building behind you has been an excellent achievement. The works were carried out by Dave McGinty and co, and their workmanship has been flawless. Nearly all of the supply and work has been carried out by local companies, once again showing that Kalgoorlie-Boulder can match it with anyone in the state. It would be remiss of me not to thank Colin Basset from the Department of Finance. Colin has guided the school through this process with a steady hand, and is the only guy I know to answer emails from Bali.

This project has required a team effort from the staff and community of Boulder Primary School. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank David Callow, Principal, Jennie McMeeken, Deputy Principal and Nicole Softley, Manager of Corporate Services for their support and guidance throughout the project. I'd like to acknowledge Margaretta Hansen, Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer for naming the project. This will quickly become Ngurra Nintipayi in action – our home of learning. Thank you must go to Janet Hill, school board chair and the school board, who have been supportive of this idea since 2020. I'd like to thank Maxine Hogan, school officer, for moving our books back on forth between the space behind me and our temporary library. The books you find inside were moved in a single day. And I would like to acknowledge Deb Bishop, our gardener. Mrs Bishop was our librarian for over 20 years, and her care for our students and this space has been a constant source of inspiration when doubt has crept in about this project.

I'd like to acknowledge our students. This project has been completed with you at the forefront of our minds. Inside, you are going to find four collaborative learning spaces. In the near future, cutting edge technologies such as green screens, 3d printers and robotics equipment will be added. In the distant future, it is hoped the learning space and the ongoing partnership with Northern Star resources, will shine a light on the possibilities that your future holds.

To finish, I'll leave you with a STEM joke. I recently read a book on anti-gravity. I couldn't put it down!

In all seriousness, Ngurra Nintipayi represents our proud history, and great future.

Mr Ashley Ferguson  
Deputy Principal



# OPENING OF THE LIBRARY



# Awards

Congratulations to the following students who won merit and value awards at assembly

<i>Class</i>	<i>Merit Award Winner</i>	<i>Values Award Winner</i>
Tjitjiku Kindy	Emma Logan	Anna Scott
Bottlebrush	Dominic Scanlon	Clare Tinonetsana
Sandalwood	Jayla Kocian	Tiahleigh Gaspar
Room 5	Mya Bui	Lily Bratt
Room 6	Jay Donaghy	Nahym Ngawaka
Room 7	Norah Farmer	Xaria Norris
Room 8	Bridget McKenna	Haylee Petersen
Room 9	Tyr Wells	Oliver McMeeken
Room 10	George Sharp	Mackinley Glover
Room 13	Mason Hanson	Lucas McMeeken
Room 14	Sophie James	Stans Kochetkov

## Why Schools Moderate

In Western Australia, students are graded based on their achievement of the Western Australian Judging Standards. This means that no matter which school your child attends and which teacher they have, their report grade should always accurately reflect what they have achieved as each grade looks the same at each school. Often, teachers get together to moderate their grades. The purpose of moderating is to practise grading work samples and to check that all teachers share the same understanding of what each grade looks like. At the beginning of this term, the schools across Kalgoorlie gathered to moderate their grading in English, which was a huge success.