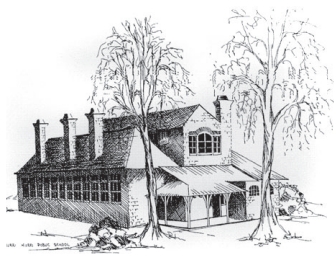


Primary entry #61: Kurri Kurri Public School



# Kurri Chronicles



**ONLINE DANGERS:** Two Kurri Kurri students discuss cyber safety.  
Picture: Abbey Purkiss

## When social media takes a wrong turn

By EMMA-LEE GREEN and BELLA COUPERTHWAIT

THE dangers of social media are all too real, with children as young as year 9 students committing suicide or ending up with serious issues following incidents online.

According to police youth liaison officer, Senior Constable Michael Steele, it's dangerous to post your personal information on these sites.

Senior Constable Steele said: "When you post photos that are embarrassing or rude, it can lead to cyberbullying which can lead to health issues such as suicide, fights, self-harm and serious injuries."

In a recent case, two year 9 girls had a fight about an incident online. One of the girls ended up in hospital with brain damage and the other later committed suicide.

"Incidents like this can come up 10 years later when you go for a job interview and may stop you from having a stable career," Senior Constable Steele said.

"If you are going to be on these sites, keep your personal information a secret, have your parents as friends and never accept people you don't know."

"Once you post something ... if you delete it, it is still saved on the site you posted it on."

Principal Eve Field said there were dangers to social media.

"It is an issue if children can access it at school, although it can be useful if used the right way."

## Lights! Camera! Action!

By CHARLOTTE GIBBONS and EMILY WATSON

PRIMARY schools throughout the Hunter are following the lead of Kurri Kurri Public School and creating their own news vodcasts.

Kurri Kurri Public was one of the first primary schools in NSW to create a news vodcast to post on the school website.

A vodcast is a simple video that can be uploaded and viewed on the internet on certain websites.

For three years, Kurri Kurri Public School has been creating a weekly news vodcast, which gets up to 700 hits from viewers a week.

The weekly vodcast contains information from the weekly newsletter.

Many students are involved. The captains present most of the news while a prefect presents word of the week. Two students film the vodcast and two edit it, with the support of a teacher.

The vodcast sometimes has special guests, such as teachers or other students who have achieved something.

The weekly vodcast is very useful. Kurri Kurri staff member, David Maddock, said: "Many parents know when their child brings home the newsletter; it will be all crunched up from being in the school bag, or even lost. Each week, every child gets a newsletter sent



**ON THE SET:** Students film and present news for their schools to watch.

Picture: Hannah Elsley

home with them. There are around 700 students in our school, so that's a lot of paper. If everyone watched the news vodcast, we would save on lots of resources."

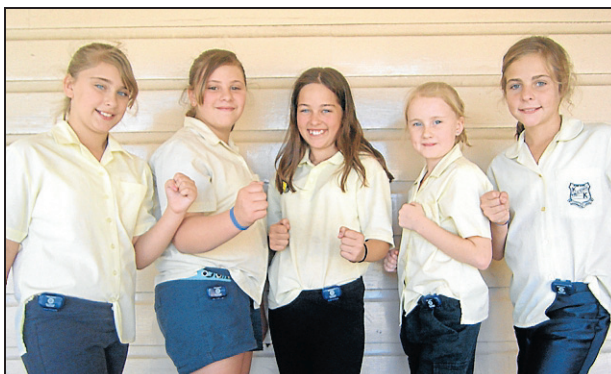
"A vodcast is a great way to learn, entertain and engage in a fun environment," said Kim Ninness, a

student learning support officer at Kurri Kurri Public School.

"In the process of filming and editing, the students involved learn new technical skills, co-operating and working as a team. The vodcast has gained many followers from other schools who are interested in

learning how to create, film and edit a school vodcast."

Ms Ninness showed students how to edit on Adobe Premiere Elements and how to upload it on to the school website. Also, staff member Mr Maddock taught how to film using the video equipment.



**AWARENESS:** Kurri Kurri students take the first step towards healthy living.  
Picture: Bella Sempf

## Techno takeover sparks fat battle

By IMOGEN GIBBONS, TONEISHA GEAR and GRACESON STODDART

WITH an increase in technology and more children choosing gaming consoles and television over sport and outdoor activities, sedentary lifestyles are on the rise.

In a bid to combat this issue, Kurri Kurri Rotary Club is doing its best to raise

awareness about obesity.

Obesity is where a person has excess body fat, which can lead to a shorter life-span and health problems.

Data from a Bureau of Statistics' study in 2011-2012 showed the prevalence of obesity in Australia has more than doubled in the past 20 years, with 70 per cent of males and 56 per cent of females classified as obese. Australia now ranks

as one of the most obese nations in the world.

Kurri Kurri Rotary has supported this ongoing battle by running the 10,000 steps challenge for the last 12 years to raise awareness and keep the community fit and healthy.

At Kurri Kurri Public there are 13 teachers and two classes participating in the challenge. The aim is to walk around the world.

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