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Media Release:

Turning trash into musical treasure

Creative recycling has led to more than 20 Muswellbrook Public Schools students enjoying the amazing Junkyard Beats musical education and sustainability program via a pilot with Learning for Good (LFG).

On 15 October, the Muswellbrook students had an interactive experience where their own bodies were transformed into musical instruments. The primary school students learned body percussion with layers of sound, working together to develop beats, claps, stomps and vocal patterns. This culminated in the class presentation of a complex routine.

Junkyard Beats is a performing arts group with a strong focus on drumming, dancing, comedy, and creative recycling. They are doing a pilot program with LFG, which will be rolled out to local schools, thanks to the Yancoal partnership.

Chris North, Founder of Learning for Good, was thrilled to help bring Junkyard Beats to the Muswellbrook students.

“We are delighted we can expand our offerings to the local students by bringing the Junkyard Beats program to some of the schools.

“Junkyard Beats are renowned for their dynamic rhythm shows. The students learn basic body percussion skills and how to perform rhythms using a range of tools such as buckets, PVC pipes, broomsticks, plastic bins, drums, and plenty more.

“It is such a unique program, the content and lessons are all fantastic, they have loads of energy, and the feedback from teachers so far has been excellent.

“We are so pleased the Muswellbrook students could enjoy the Junkyard Beats experience. Nearly 70 schools in the region now have access to this program, and we hope more schools get their students clapping and stomping,” said Chris.

LFG is thrilled to have Yancoal Australia as a Foundation Partner. LFG is an education technology charity that sources and distributes world-leading cultural content and educational resources produced by Arts and Cultural Not-For-Profits.

Ashton Coal Operations Manager, Michael Bartlett was excited to help bring this unique experience to the local students.

“Yancoal Australia is proud to be a Foundation Partner of LFG. This partnership helps to resource teachers in regional communities with desperately needed high-quality learning resources in music, drama, art, and literature.

“We are committed to making a positive difference in the communities where we operate and live. Many of our people have children that attend the local primary and high schools, and we want to help ensure they are receiving the best education they can.

“Overtime, we are looking forward to making a positive impact via our partnership with Learning for Good. They do exceptional work with teachers and students,” said Michael.

For more information about Learning For Good, please visit: <https://www.learningforgood.com.au/schools> or for more information about Junkyard Beats, please visit: <https://www.junkyardbeats.com/schoolprograms>

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