



## Press Release

St Peter's Primary School, Epping students announced winners of groundbreaking national school mapping competition

Thursday 25th August 2022

A competition designed to encourage school students to become more aware of the green shade on their school grounds has announced its national winners.

St Peter's Primary School, Epping is proud to announce that their school has been awarded Classroom Drone Essential Pack valued at over \$2500 thanks to their entries into the national 'How Cool is your School' competition.

Established in 2019, the annual 'How Cool is your School' competition is the brainchild of She Maps, a groundbreaking national drone and geospatial education provider encouraging students to learn mapping skills from as young an age as possible.

The competition, run in term two of each year, asks students to calculate the percentage of green infrastructure or green shady space that they have at their schools, and then challenges them to come up with some solutions to make their school a little bit greener, and more of an inviting space to be in.

Prizes are awarded to each age group Under 6 to 12+ for the best map meeting cartographic (mapping) conventions.

"The Year 6 students calculated that St Peter's Primary School, Epping has 15% shade," said St Peter's Principal, Angela Tonkin.

"We have determined that the following interventions could assist us in making our school a little bit greener by offering shade.

"Our STEM teachers, Rachael Lorkin and Laura Mercuri and Teaching and Learning Leader Melissa Gatt were so impressed with their student's engagement, motivation and capabilities in really understanding the social and environmental benefits of providing more shaded areas in their school playground. The drone and geo-spatial technology enabled our students to find purpose in their learning. We are just so proud of their findings, outcomes and overall achievements that they have gained by entering this dynamic competition."

The prizes wouldn't be possible without the generous support of [Greenline](#), Australia's leaders in custom made shade structures for schools, councils and sports clubs. They have sponsored an incredible \$7,500 in

prizes, that's three She Maps Classroom Drone Essentials programs, for one school in each state of New South Wales, and Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory.

This year, the 'How Cool is your School' Competition surpassed She Maps' expectations with 887 individual entries received from schools around Australia.

"The quality and quantity of the entries this year totally surpassed our expectations," said She Maps Co-Founder and Education Director, Dr Karen Joyce.

"This competition aims to get as many students engaged and learning mapping conventions from as young an age as possible.

"The competition is designed to help bring the focus on sustainability and the importance of trees in the school environment."

From the entries received, the average percentage of shade found at these schools is approximately 24%.

"We aim to continue to work with schools to increase the amount of shade available at their schools, with the hope that all schools can reach 30% by 2030," said Dr Joyce.

For more information about [She Maps](https://shemaps.com), please visit: <https://shemaps.com>.

For more information or interview requests, please contact:

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