

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 16 September 2019

Four Scots All Saints College students selected for the UNICEF 2019 NSW Youth Drought Summit

Scots All Saints College is pleased to announce today four Year 9 and 10 Agriculture students have been selected to participate in the UNICEF NSW Youth Drought Summit, to be held from 9 to 11 October 2019 in Lake Macquarie.

The UNICEF NSW Youth Drought Summit provides an opportunity for young people living with drought to identify actions that are needed to more effectively support drought-affected communities.

Head of College, Mr John Weeks was pleased to announce Scots All Saints College students, Holly Stokes, Harriett Mitchell, Will Thomas and Felicity Webb have been selected to attend the summit to be a youth 'voice' on the important issue of drought which continues to affect a high proportion of NSW.

"Our students will work closely with other young people to discuss the challenges faced living with drought, analysing appropriate responses, and examining ways to strengthen preparedness," Mr Weeks said.

"The College community is proud of these students who have stepped forward to create active change in the current drought crisis. A large proportion of boarding students come from Western NSW where droughts are entering their fifth and sixth year. It is wonderful to see students taking the initiative to make change not only for their communities but other communities struggling with drought," he said.

"Many areas of the Central West and regional towns including our own on-campus farm are not immune to the affects of drought. Our Agricultural faculty has been looking into ways of maximising water usage and adopting sustainable practices to secure feed for stock on our own College working farm which is a valuable educational resource for our students," Mr Weeks said.

Scots All Saints College hosts 40 acres of farmland on the Scots Campus. The farm has had a successful lambing season with most ewes having twins or triplets, making drought planning even more critical to ensure there is enough feed and water to support the growing stock numbers.

The UNICEF NSW Youth Drought Summit aims to achieve connections between young people and their peers to create a support network, develop shared understanding of drought impact and current support available, be involved in a forum enticing action-orientated discussion and strengthen confidence in advocacy, analysis, collaboration and leadership.

Scots All Saints College offers annual Agricultural Scholarships with applications now open for 2021. We encourage all those who are interested in joining our College community to apply. Additionally, to assist regional and rural families faced with financial hardship due to drought, Scots All Saints College offers multi-student discounts for 3 or more siblings and cousins providing tuition and boarding relief. These

offers are available for a limited time. Parents and students are encouraged to talk to Registrar for further information on 02 6331 3911 or visit our website <https://scotsallsaints.nsw.edu.au/enrolments/scholarships/>

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For media enquiries and interview, please contact Director of Community Engagement & Marketing, Mrs Mel Monico on 0420 870 387.

