

Creating meaningful

Impact.

Join the Movement: Businesses & Schools Driving Change.



Hello and welcome to our Term 1 2026 Edition of The STEM Connection

In this issue, we highlight a school that has participated in our STEM program, as well as a corporate partner who have supported a school to take part in our program. We are also very excited to share some distribution stories from the past 3 months. We also have a STEM activity for you to try and a fun fact about SolarBuddy.

Big News from SolarBuddy HQ!

We're excited to share that our [education resources](#) (sent out when schools order SolarBuddy lights) have had a fresh update!

They're now fully aligned with the [Australian Curriculum](#) and mapped to each state's curriculum too, making it even easier for teachers to integrate hands-on solar STEM learning straight into the classroom.

That means more engaging activities for students, smoother lesson planning for teachers, and even more impact as your class learns about renewable energy while helping to light up lives around the world.

Let's get building, learning and making a difference!



Our Power, Our Planet - Earth Day 2026

Earth Day is on 22nd April 2026, and this year's theme, **Our Power, Our Planet**, celebrates how people everywhere can create a more sustainable future.

This Earth Day, schools can turn learning into meaningful action through the SolarBuddy STEM program. Students explore renewable energy and sustainability while assembling solar-powered lights that will be sent to children living without reliable electricity. Through this hands-on experience, they learn how solar energy works, apply STEM skills in a practical way, and see how clean energy can support both people and the planet. Schools can also fundraise as part of their Earth Day activities, helping students connect their efforts to real-world impact while building empathy, teamwork, and purpose. Depending on the funds raised, students can assemble lights in the classroom or participate in SolarBuddy Virtual, writing a personal message to the child who will receive their light.

[Register your school](#)



Young Changemakers Shine Bright - Abbotsleigh School for Girls & Knox Grammar School Power Up with SolarBuddy

We loved seeing the incredible teamwork and generosity from **Abbotsleigh School for Girls** and **Knox Grammar School** as they came together once again to take part in the SolarBuddy STEM program.

This year, both schools worked hard to fundraise by hosting a number of events and their efforts truly paid off. Together, they raised enough to purchase **125 JuniorBuddy lights**, which the students proudly assembled themselves.

In a wonderful show of collaboration 48 Year 1 girls from Abbotsleigh and 81 Year 1 boys from Knox Grammar took part in this hands-on STEM experience, learning about renewable energy while making a real-world difference for children living without reliable access to electricity. Every light they built will help a child study safely after dark, turning classroom learning into meaningful global impact.

Even more inspiring, Abbotsleigh and Knox Grammar have been fundraising and **running this event together for the past three years**. Their continued commitment shows the power of partnership, community spirit, and young people leading positive change.

A huge thank you to both school communities, students, teachers, and families, for your ongoing support of SolarBuddy and the children who will receive these lights. We hope this wonderful tradition continues for many years to come. Together, you're helping to light up futures, one solar light at a time.



Lighting Up Learning at Copperfield College

We loved seeing learning come to life at **Copperfield College** in Victoria, who recently took part in SolarBuddy's JuniorBuddy STEM program, proudly supported by our long-term partner **Capgemini**.

Across two campuses, students worked together to assemble an incredible **200 solar lights** on 22 October, combining hands-on STEM learning with real-world impact. Through this activity, students explored renewable energy concepts, simple circuitry, teamwork and problem-solving - while also learning about global energy poverty and how solar power can change lives.

The lights assembled by students are already on their way to **Papua New Guinea**, where they will help children living without reliable access to electricity study safely after dark. For many students, this was a powerful reminder that what they learn in the classroom can make a meaningful difference beyond their own community.

A huge thank you to the wonderful students at Copperfield College for their enthusiasm, care and teamwork in assembling the lights. An extra special thank you to Capgemini for your continued support in bringing engaging STEM education and solar solutions into schools across Australia.

Together, we're not just building lights - we're helping to brighten futures.



Fun SolarBuddy Fact

81 schools took part in SolarBuddy's STEM program in 2025, assembling 19,290 JuniorBuddy lights and 286 StudentBuddy lights.



Solar Heat Trap Challenge

Share your results and photos with us, please send to hello@solarbuddy.org

[Download Instructions](#)



JuniorBuddy Lights to East Sumba - Indonesia

"It took us a full day to travel 30 km."

Distribution isn't just a delivery; it's a mission. In collaboration with **Rotary International**, **Fair Future Foundation**, and **Kawan Baik Indonesia**, we delivered 2,224 lights to 28 schools in one of the world's most isolated regions.

"We walked for nearly 12 hours, crossing rivers and crawling through thick mud... to reach a single school with 40 children. Sumba is one of the poorest regions in the country. The journey was arduous, but every step was worthwhile." - Alexandre Wettstein - CEO, Founder, President, Fair Future Foundation

A big thank you to our dedicated and passionate partners for ensuring SolarBuddy devices made it safely to remote communities living without electricity.

Stay tuned for more STEM activities in our next issue!

[Book a STEM Program](#)

[Return Your Lights](#)

[JuniorBuddy](#)

[StudentBuddy](#)



SolarBuddy STEM
www.solarbuddystem.com

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