



13 AUG, 2019

DAIRY ART PROJECT GETS RURAL KIDS MOO-VING

Kalgoorlie Miner, Kalgoorlie



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Phoebe Pin

Kalgoorlie School of the Air's new four-legged arrival will help remote students track the journey of their food from farm to plate as part of a national initiative educating children about the importance of Australia's agricultural industry.

Dairy Australia have been delivering the Picasso Cow program to schools in metropolitan areas since 2009 but has this year taken the initiative to eight rural

schools in WA, including Kalgoorlie SOTA.

Students have already started learning about the Australian dairy industry, its products, health and nutrition benefits, farming practices and manufacturing processes and will travel to Kalgoorlie-Boulder at the end of the term to decorate the life-size fibreglass cow.

Teacher Adrian Parsons said with so many Kalgoorlie SOTA students living on cattle stations in places such as Eucla, Espe-

rance and Wiluna, the program would be an invaluable addition to the school's regular curriculum.

"A lot of our kids already know about beef and sheep so this is just another way at looking at where food comes from," he said.

"It's all very exciting and we are looking forward to having the kids come and decorate the cow at the end of the term."

Dairy Australia school communications manager Emma Rundle said the expansion of the Picasso Cow program also aimed to address gaps access to educational resources in regional WA.

"Remote schools miss out on a lot of education programs that service metropolitan cities," she said. "A fun, interactive education program like Picasso Cows would be very valuable to raise the importance of healthy eating in their communities.

"This cross-curricular program is highly interactive, catering for a diverse range of learning styles."



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Kalgoorlie School of the Air teacher Adrian Parsons with their new Picasso cow. Picture: Tori O'Connor