

# CROSS CURRICULUM NEWS

## Sustainability

### 1. Biodiversity Action:

Have you noticed all the hanging baskets in the central courtyard have been revitalised? Andrew Paul, our Chaplain, worked on this task with Year 6 students last week. Thanks to the students and Andrew for doing a great job!

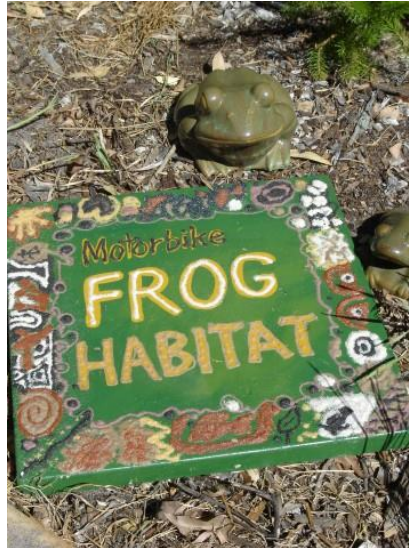
The new animal enclosure has an occupant! Mr Brescianini obtained a pet rabbit for the school. Thank you Mr B. Children will be allowed to take the rabbit home on weekends to care for it. If you are interested in being on a weekend rabbit roster please let Mr B or Elaine know. Thank you. We are still interested in your input regarding the future occupants of the animal enclosure. Please have a chat with Elaine or leave a message in the office.



Another major biodiversity initiative this term involves Year 7 students conducting a Biodiversity Snapshot of the school grounds and bushland, with a particular focus on the black cockatoos. Students are working with three Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) officers, Mrs Grey (bushland expert), and three staff members (Mr Brescianini, Mrs Lewis and Mr Paul). Ms Marr from DEC spoke to students and students then held investigations in the bushland. After completing the snapshot students will develop and action plan to improve our local environment.



Check out new developments in the frog habitat! Recently Carol Flannery completed the final protective coat on the frog habitat slab and placed it in the frog garden. Many thanks Carol for your long term artistic support and work with our children! Other frog news ... at a recent Year 7 Pizza Night Mr B reported the delightful calls of frogs as the pizzas were cooking. What a special environment the students have created!



## 2. WasteWise:

*Clean Up Australia Day* occurred in our school on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February. At the start of the day Mr Owen's Year 4/5 students created a map of the world including the five ocean gyres, using wool to outline the continents and gyres. Did you see this map near the undercover area?

*Clean Up* action involved classes collecting rubbish from the school grounds and bushland areas. This rubbish was then placed on the map of the world, highlighting the quantity of waste we produce. The five ocean gyres were full of rubbish too!

4.6 kg litter and 2.4kg recyclables were collected. Many thanks to all the classes involved in this day of action.





### 3. WaterWise:

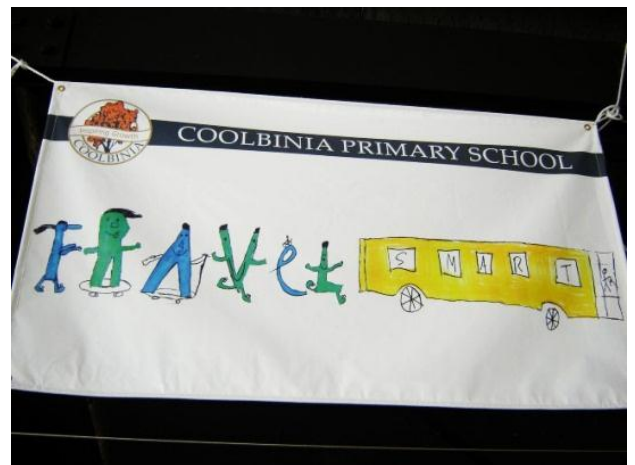
World Water Day is on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Students will be engaging in water-based action for the environment.

### 4. EnergySmart:

Department of Environment and Conservation EnergySmart officer, Linley Brown, plans to visit the school this term to recognise our outstanding achievement in reducing energy use. Last Year we achieved a massive 20% reduction and saved \$104 in a two week period.

### 5. TravelSmart:

Department of Transport TravelSmart officer, Emma Jack, presented a “silver” TravelSmart award to our school at an assembly on 1<sup>st</sup> March. Afterwards Emma visited the Year 6 classes and explained the Travelsmart program and invited student action.



The main events for TravelSmart this term include:

1. National Ride 2 School Day on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.
2. Fume Free Fridays continue every week.
3. Walking School Bus routes every week. There are some photos here of the Bradford Street bus.

Please seek to come to school in a TravelSmart way to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions as well as congestion around the school. Thank you.



## 6. 50 Tonne Plan

Our '50 Tonne Plan' aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50 tonnes, through various actions including use of solar energy, tree planting, being wastewise, waterwise and travelsmart. We are well on the way to achieving this target ... we have reached 45 tonnes!

### ***Aboriginal Cultures and Histories***

Our school has applied for a Partnerships Acceptance Learning Sharing (PALS) grant that aims to encourage young people to take a leadership role in strengthening the relationships that exist in their wider community between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. PALS is an initiative of the Department of Indigenous Affairs. Students will expand their knowledge of traditional and current Indigenous culture and lifestyle.

The Bush Tucker Garden has new signs, identifying the different plant species. Students will be working on this garden to develop it further this year. Mrs Graca's Year 6 students did a great job weeding this garden last week. Thank you Year 6s.

Finally, we applied to the One World Centre for a Global Teacher Advocate grant to develop an Aboriginal Cultures kit. The proposed kit will not only be used by our students but eventually be available for loan by all schools across the state.

### ***Australia's Engagement with Asia***

**Harmony Day** is on **21 March** and we will be celebrating with a dress-up day. This annual celebration will be preceded by an incursion by a Polynesian performer on Tuesday 19 March.

Mrs Melville's and Mrs Graca's classes will also be involved in the **Harmony Festival**. Our students will be encouraged to identify with their own cultures by making Harmony flag artworks during workshops with Paula Hart. These flags will be displayed as bunting at the *Festival*. The *Harmony Festival* will be held at Stirling Civic Gardens, 2-7.30pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. After this event the City of Stirling plans to hang the bunting again at the *Mirrabooka Square Harmony Event* on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March, and as it should be quite durable, they hope to store it and use it again next year.

Thank you  
Elaine Lewis  
Cross Curriculum Coach  
5 March 2013

#### **Important Dates**

- **Harmony Week Incursion 19 March**
- **Harmony Day Dress-up 21 March**
- **National Ride 2 School Day 22 March**
- **World Water Day 22 March**