

# CROSS CURRICULUM NEWS

## Sustainability

... breaking news ... Coolbinia Award Winners!!!

### ...Kids Who Give WA, TravelSmart and PALS

Fourth term has brought a flurry of excitement to students, staff and parents because Coolbinia Primary School has been recognised as award winners in three different aspects of Sustainability.

#### 1. Kids Who Give WA

Coolbinia PS was recognised as *Giving Champions* at a special event at Government House on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October. Two students, Isabel (Yr 7) and Michael (Yr 6), accepted the *Champion School Award* on behalf of the whole school community.



See the photos of the event below. For more information about the *Kids Who Give WA* project please refer to: <http://www.kidswhogivewa.com.au/awards/>

This award recognised our students' fund raising work – solar lanterns to replace polluting kerosene lanterns, Amnesty International's fund for children in refugee camps, as well as educational materials for refugee children, and fund raising for 'clean water saves lives' project.

As a *Champion School* the *Kids Who Give WA* organisation provided our school with a certificate and trophy. These can be seen in the front office. We also received \$500 to be donated to a charity or charities of our choice. During the previous two weeks students have been selecting and voting on possible charities. They decided to share the \$500 donation between PMH and SIDS.

Sincere thanks to all who participated in the *Kids Who Give WA* initiative.

#### 2. Kids Teaching Kids and the TravelSmart Gold Award

During 2013 the Year 5/6 class participated in the *Kids Teaching Kids* leadership program. Last term eleven students presented a workshop at the *Climate, Coasts and Communities Conference* in Mandurah. Then, on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November, eight students from our Year 5/6 class and two from the Year 6 class presented a *Kids Teaching Kids* workshop at the *TravelSmart Showcase*. This event was held at City Farm, where the children enjoyed the gardens and chooks, as well as workshops conducted by other schools.

Our students presented their workshop to upper primary students on ... *The Amazing, the Sensational 100 Tonne Plan!* They did an outstanding job and represented our school in an exemplary manner. This experience enhanced our children's knowledge as well as their presentation and critical thinking skills. See the photos below.



After the student workshops the annual TravelSmart Awards ceremony was held. Coolbinia Primary won two awards:

- Gold Award – for outstanding TravelSmart promotion and action
- TravelSmart School of the Year 2013 Award – Runner up



Coolbinia received the Bronze Award in 2011 and the Silver Award in 2012, so clearly we are moving from strength to strength.

The remaining students in Year 5/6 who have not yet presented a *Kids Teaching Kids* workshop on *The Amazing, the Sensational 100 Tonne Plan!* will be presenting at the Target store in Perth (Target was a *Kids Teaching Kids* conference sponsor) on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. At this presentation the whole class will also have the opportunity to see behind the scenes to learn about Target's waste management strategies.

Congratulations to all involved in this exciting and empowering performance ... and to all our TravelSmart winners!



### 3. PALS Award

Our Aboriginal cultural program resulted in Coolbinia Primary School being selected as a finalist in the PALS Awards. The PALS acronym stands for the qualities of **Partnership, Acceptance, Learning and Sharing**. This program encourages young people to take a leadership role in strengthening relationships in their local community between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. You can find out more about the program at: <http://pals.daa.wa.gov.au/> Participation in this program relates to the Australian Curriculum Cross Curriculum Priority *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures*.

The PALS Awards ceremony was held at Parliament House on Friday 15 November. Ten children from Year 3 (ELC 1) had the opportunity to represent the school at the ceremony: Javier, Courtney, Jack, Dylan, Heidi, Zoe, Nathaniel, Isabella, Rubina and Coby. Three staff members - Debra Holland, Carol Evans-Lashmar and Elaine Lewis, as well as two parents - attended the ceremony.



The students were sensational in their ladybird costumes which were created for their 'Ladybird Dreaming' story.



Two other components of this award related to the development of our *Reconciliation Action Plan* and the Six Seasons mural in our central courtyard. Peter Farmer, a renowned Noongar artist, worked with our students to produce this sensational art installation representing the Noongar six seasons.

Many thanks to everyone who supported our various PALS initiatives. If you want to read the full report for the PALS Award please come and chat with me. There is also a wonderful web article on the Department of Education Website – [take a look](#).

After the Awards ceremony the students had the opportunity to learn more about parliamentary procedures.



### 100 Tonne Plan

Our new 100 Tonne Plan, which aims to reduce greenhouse gases from the atmosphere by 100 tonnes by the end of 2014, is progressing well ... biodiversity, waste, water, energy and transport actions are moving us towards the removal of our first 10 tonne can on our Upside Down Thermometer.

This carbon reduction initiative started in 2011 with a 10 Tonne Plan, which was easily achieved during that year. The community chose to implement a 50 Tonne plan next. This was achieved by the end of first term this year. Great interest has been expressed about these plans and the school was invited to prepare a case study for the Department of Education website. This case study is now available for viewing: <http://det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/sustainableschools/detcms/navigation/climate-change/?oid=MultiPartArticle-id-1862434>

Professor Lyn Beazley, WA Chief Scientist, commended the case study and the sustainability work of the school.

With thanks... Elaine Lewis (Cross Curriculum Coach) 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013