

# CROSS CURRICULUM NEWS

## Sustainability

### 1. Biodiversity Action:

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) tour was conducted on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. The Ambassadors guided our guests, the National Manager and WA Coordinator of the SAKG program, around the school gardens then visited the kitchen in action. They were very impressed and enjoyed savouring the delights cooked by our Year 7s. Unfortunately Stephanie Alexander was unable to join the tour due to a change in her schedule. See the photos.

Don't the gardens look fabulous! The busy bee, conducted on the weekend prior to the SAKG visit, was extremely successful. Parents and children weeded, planted, painted and completed the installation of the greenhouse. Sincere thanks to all our wonderful supporters:

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April we had help from:

Wilf Bamber

Martin & Marianna Beeken

Tom & Peter Hallam

Bronwyn Howlett

Morag & Max Irvine

Alison Stevens & Liam Macsok

Carmen, Paul, Oli & Lily Reynolds

Leonie & Alice Tanner

Bill, Fiona & Charlotte Thomson

Jason & Ryan Walford

Volunteers on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April included:

Janine, Elise & Georgia Beattie

Kym & Max Flannery

Bronwyn Howlett

Hugh, Eva, Tara & Aaron Markey

Yona, Carol, Sivan & Elisheva Millner

Carmen, Paul, Oli & Lily Reynolds



Alison Stevens & Liam Macsok

Anne, Elizabeth & Georgie Syme

Bill Thomson

Check out the photos showing the volunteers in action. Warmest thanks to our fabulous helpers! You made a huge difference!

Who cared for our rabbit during the holidays? Sincere thanks to the following families for their excellent care and assistance:

Peter Hallam, Leonie Tanner & family

Bill Thomson, Bronwyn Howlett & family

If you would like to care for the rabbit over weekends or during the next holidays please let me know.

## 2. WasteWise:

A Mindarie Regional Council waste expert, Anne Pettit, visited our school on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to work with our Year 3 & 4 Cool School Adventurers. These students identified waste issues at school and are in the process of developing action plans to improve the situation. Anne will revisit the waste team on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May to see how they are progressing. Sincere thanks to Anne for enhancing awareness around 'resource rescuing' and contributing to the leadership skills of our waste warriors.

Other waste news ... a can crusher has been installed in the compost bin area to encourage can recycling and a wire can recycling bin placed in the undercover area. Remember we are still recycling batteries, aluminium cans and mobile phones (bins in the Kwobadarn).

## 3. WaterWise:

Who did the watering over the holidays? Many thanks to Leonie Tanner and some staff members who kept our plants alive so we could return to thriving gardens. This support is greatly appreciated.

As a WaterWise school we maintain an ongoing commitment to water conservation. For more information please go to: <http://www.watercorpeducation.com.au/page/18/Interactive-Resources>.

You may have seen our Year 7s with watering cans on the oval slope going down to Glick Street. These students are using rain water to water their recently planted native species. This planting occurred as an outcome of their Biodiversity Snapshot science program which identified erosion concerns and lack of understory around the sloping edges of the oval.



Other students also use rain water from our tanks to water their raised beds, like the delightful Year 1s who have planted the bed with the bee windmill in the Tree Garden.



World Migratory Bird Day is on 11 - 12 May 2013 and this year's theme - "Networking for migratory birds" - highlights the importance of networks of sites for migratory birds along their migration routes.

Migratory birds travel huge distances along their migration routes.

Connected landing sites act like 'stepping stones' and are used by birds to migrate. They are important for resting, drinking, feeding, breeding and wintering. Perth has many migratory birds and students will be

conducting bird surveys on 14<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day. They will also examine the importance of the wetlands in the Perth metropolitan area for our

migratory birds.

#### 4. EnergySmart:

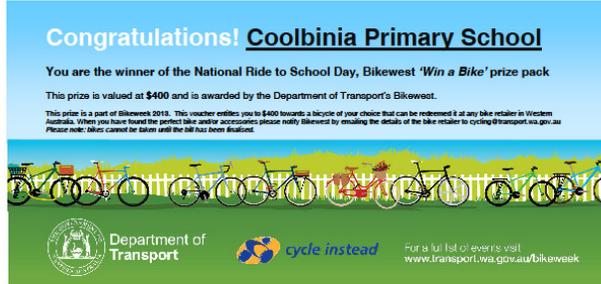
Department of Environment and Conservation EnergySmart for Air officer, Linley Brown, visited our school on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Ms Brown made a presentation at the assembly to recognise our outstanding achievement in reducing energy use. Last Year we achieved a massive 20% reduction and saved \$104 in a two week period. While at school, Ms Brown also conducted an EnergySmart for Air incursion with the Year 7 class.

The EnergySmart for Air website makes comment on our work in this field: *"Special mention must be made of Coolbinia Primary School who reduced their energy use by a whopping 20%. Their continued efforts at being a sustainable school are to be commended."* For more information visit:

<http://education.dec.wa.gov.au/airwatch/news/192-energy-smart-for-air-schools-2012.html>

#### 5. TravelSmart:

During 1<sup>st</sup> term, the Year 5/6 TravelSmart team organised a treasure hunt for the class demonstrating the greatest improvement in TravelSmart behaviours. Mr Bosworth's Year 4 class received this honour and enjoyed the treasure hunt. The special day to demonstrate TravelSmart action last term focused on *National Ride 2 School Day* on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, and because of our enthusiastic participation the school won a \$400 voucher for a bike! This voucher will be used as a prize during this term. The TravelSmart team will be planning the details and these will be announced soon.



This term the special TravelSmart day will be *National Walk to School Day* on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May. Please check out [http://www.walk.com.au/wstsd01/WSTSD\\_Publicity.asp](http://www.walk.com.au/wstsd01/WSTSD_Publicity.asp) and support this initiative. But there is more to TravelSmart than one special day each term ... there are ongoing TravelSmart activities:

- Fume Free Fridays every week
- Walking School Bus routes every week
- Walk to School Day - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May
- Stride Board Interschool TravelSmart Competition – 27<sup>th</sup> May – 5<sup>th</sup> July

Please support these initiatives for health and fitness, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and minimize congestion around our school. Thank you.

Many thanks to our TravelSmart team for organising our *National Ride 2 School Day* and to all the volunteers ... parents and staff ... who operate the Walking School Buses. Beep beep!

## 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 (at school and replacing kerosene lanterns with solar lanterns),
- tree planting,
- being wastewise, waterwise and travelsmart.

We are extremely close to achieving our 50 tonne target! Please let me know your thoughts on a new target! 100 Tonne Plan next time? What do you think?



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

Our application for a One World Centre Global Teaching Advocate (OWC GTA) \$4,000 grant to develop an Aboriginal Cultures kit was successful. The kit will not only be used by our students but eventually be available for loan by all schools across the state. Seven teachers volunteered to work on this project, and four attended a professional learning day on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April at the OWC. A OWC GTA meeting was held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April to complete planning documents and display resources purchased so far.

Planning has also commenced for:

- 6 seasons mural for the bush tucker garden
- NAIDOC Week activities

In brief, there are very exciting initiatives being undertaken this year as the whole school focuses on the Aboriginal Cultures and Histories cross curriculum priority of the Australian Curriculum.

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

Coolbinia's engagement with the Asian cross curriculum priority is continuing from a whole school perspective as well as being embedded into class programs. You will recall our whole school project to raise funds to provide solar lanterns to replace polluting and dangerous kerosene lanterns. This project is part of our engagement with the *Kids Who Give WA* program. Another wellbeing project, commencing this term, involves Oxfam's *Clean Water Saves Lives* initiative in Asia.

### *Kids Who Give WA Program*

The *Kids Who Give WA* program aims to raise a generation of socially aware and caring Western Australians. A letter of invitation from His Excellency Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC, Governor of Western Australia, and Mrs Tonya McCusker, in regard to this exciting new youth giving program explained that it was designed to encourage children to be more community minded.

To recognise our participation in the *Kids Who Give WA* program, the Governor and Mrs McCusker will visit our school on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May and make a presentation at our morning assembly. Please come to this assembly to hear more. You may access more information about the program by visiting the *Kids Who Give WA* website at: <http://www.kidswhogivewa.com.au>

Thank you

Elaine Lewis

Cross Curriculum Coach

6<sup>th</sup> May 2013