

Sustainability Update – October 2023

We have gained our 4th star for the water module. The Energy module has gone to Sustainability Victoria for verification and we are hoping we will gain our 5th star. As well as completing the final module, we need to be at or below benchmark for each resource module. We are getting very close for Energy, Waste and Water. For waste, we have gone from a weekly landfill collection, then two years ago we went to fortnightly collections. From October, we are going to go to monthly collections.

Achieving 5 Stars is a huge achievement. Stars are valid for four years and need to be maintained over time. ResourceSmart Schools recommend that we hold a celebration with our school community, which we would love to do!

The weekly Sustainability lessons continuing in term 4 with the focus on waste/litter. Each class receives a quick refresher as to what goes into their classroom bins and the yard bins. So that students can see more easily what is going into the bins in the yard, Mat has cut the front out of a wheelie bin and we are using clear liners in the bins. Students will conduct a waste audit each week of either the 7 wheelie bins or the 6 permanent bins to see what can be recycled rather than go to landfill. The aim will be for all staff and students to not put food scraps into the landfill bins. Students will continue to view images from the sensor camera that has been mounted in various trees pointing at the nest box. We had some night vision of a possum in the tree outside of the toilets in September – very exciting.

- **Yellow bin** – paper, cardboard and hard plastic
- **Green caddy** – all food scraps
- **Blue Murfee bins** – other recyclables such as bottle caps, bread tags, ring pulls, oral care, old pens, pencils, textas & glue sticks,
- **Red bin** – land fill – all other waste

Landcare Grant 2022 – We are continuing work on the mural each Friday afternoon 3:30-4:30pm. We have quite a few families attend these sessions and have made great progress. We need to submit a final report by the end of the year, once the mural is complete.

We had a **Walk and Wheels to School day** in term 3 on the 1st day of September. It was well supported by students. A hands up count was conducted by the house captains and submitted on-line. We will hold one or two in term 4.

‘WOW’ Wednesday and Fruity Friday House captains continue to run these each week. House captains are responsible for giving out stickers and collecting data on these days. They are going to trial giving out tokens rather than stickers, as many stickers fall off and are found in the yard.

Aussie Backyard Bird count – will be conducted in week 3

Recycle Week will be celebrated in week 8 with the Recycle Shop in the MPR.

Marita Ryan