

Sustainability Term 4, 2022 – Water

River Detectives Report – November 2022

All students attended a water incursion in the Multi-purpose room on Friday 7th October presented by Ann Forder from Greater Western Water. This incursion was developed to introduce students to Water – the water cycle and all things water.

Following this whole school incursion, each class will have their sustainability lesson focusing on water. Students were asked to reflect on the incursion.

Students took away the following things from the incursion:

- Only 3 things allowed in the toilet – wees, poos and toilet paper
- Don't put wipes down the toilet
- Don't put tissues or too much toilet paper down the toilet
- Vomit goes down the toilet, but you count that as the same as poos
- Water evaporates into the clouds then it rains, hail, snow, sleet – the water cycle.
- We are drinking water maybe from millions of years ago that the Dinosaurs drank.

As each class has their session, sometimes it had been weeks between the incursion and their class. It was great to see many students retaining much of the information that was imparted to them on this day.

Students were then introduced to the River Detectives program, which involves Mrs Batty and Mrs Ryan going down to Kororoit Creek at 8am on a Friday to take a water sample from the creek at the end of Norwood Street, Albion. Students are shown a power point presentation of Kororoit Creek to set the scene, various water videos and a video of the Melbourne Water - Water bug Census

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaRsl4AdA7E>

Students are then given time to search for different water bugs in the water sample. This gives them an indication of the overall health of Kororoit Creek. Various water bugs were found in the water sample, they include - pogs, fly larvae, water pennies, damselfly larvae, glass shrimps, whirligig beetle larvae, worms, blood worms, water tigers and water treaders. Most of the water bugs found are tolerant or very tolerant water bugs, with only a few sensitive water bugs meaning the water is moderately polluted. After the floods, this is not surprising.



Students looking for water bugs in the trays, during their sustainability class and at lunch time.