



## **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

*Revised January 2016*

### **Introduction**

Environmental education in the modern context is about providing children with the knowledge, skills and attitudes appropriate to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Of paramount importance are the attitudes children have to the environment and the actions they show in being environmentally responsible.

### **Aims**

- To build environmental awareness in areas such as conservation of resources such as electricity, paper and water through the development of processes which model conservation and recycling.
- To teach children how to use these strategies within the school context and to encourage them to use these strategies at home as well.
- To promote conservation strategies for energy and water.
- To promote and model strategies to recycle waste.
- To link environmental education with the Somers Primary School Science program.
- To promote the valuing of biodiversity and the importance of maintaining biodiversity in both the animal and plant kingdoms.

### **Implementation**

- Appoint teaching members to be responsible for the implementation of the program across the School.
- Convene a committee/group to oversee the forward planning for the year. This committee would meet once per term.
- Select activities/events which compliment the teachers' planning in the VELs and these are timetabled.
- Inform our community of what we are doing in this program.
- Use experts to support the program in educating staff and the community.
- Provide professional development for staff in assisting with the implementation of the program.
- Use the local environment for excursions/visits to broaden the community's understandings of the local environment.
- Nominate Environmental Captains as part of the School Leadership program to plan and carry out programs.
- Waste Wise - development of the program.
- Membership of the State Garden Awards.
- Participation in Accredited Recycling and Conservation programs.

## **Evaluation**

- Parent opinion.
- Children's opinion.
- School Council involvement through Grounds Sub-committee.