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 21st 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.