

REGIONAL WINNERS 2005

Castlemaine Steiner School
Darley Primary School
Greenvale Primary School
Lara Secondary College
Macclesfield Primary School
Northcote High School
Princes Hill Primary School
St Mary's Primary School
Tyabb Primary School



REGIONAL WINNER 2005 Castlemaine Steiner School

WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Castlemaine
Calder Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 173
Principal: Deborah Wardle
Phone: (03) 5470 6235
Contact: Jeff Onans

"Castlemaine Steiner School and Kindergarten has an inbuilt culture of waste wise and sustainable activities practised (sic) every day as a matter of course." Jeff Onans, Daily Practice, Waste Wise

Highlights

- There is an inbuilt culture of Waste Wise and Sustainable activities from the overall solar passive building design to the composting systems attached to the class gardening programs.
- Waste Wise and Sustainable philosophies are integrated holistically into the curriculum and all aspects of schooling.
- The whole school is independent of mains water, relying solely on tank water for drinking, cooking facilities, and toilets. All sewerage wastes are dealt with on site using septic tanks and large evaporative, effluent ponds, with strong reed beds.
- The school has a rigorous policy of healthy morning teas and lunches, minimising waste from commercially packaged foods. All waste from food is either composted or taken home.

REGIONAL WINNER 2005

Darley Primary School

WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Bacchus Marsh
Highlands Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 614
Principal: Anne Runnall
Phone: (03) 5367 1558
Contact: Kate Tubbs

Highlights

- There is a committed, whole school approach to the Waste Wise Schools program that includes students, parents, teachers, School Council and Junior School Council.
- Waste and recycling are integrated across the curriculum at all year levels.
- Junior School Council meets regularly to discuss continuous improvements to the school environment.
- The chook house was constructed as a maths exercise, the chooks incubated in the school library and the eggs become part of subjects such as cooking or as rewards. The money for chook pellets and wheat comes from the sale of recycling aluminium cans.
- Also worthy of note is the "Lizard Lounge" where learning is fun.
- Recycling, composting, school grounds plantings, water saving and re-use of materials for Visual Art are just some of the myriad of ways in which Darley Primary School is Waste Wise.

"This week my grade is doing chook duty. I like it – I wish 1D could do it for a whole week."
Student



REGIONAL WINNER 2005

Greenvale Primary School

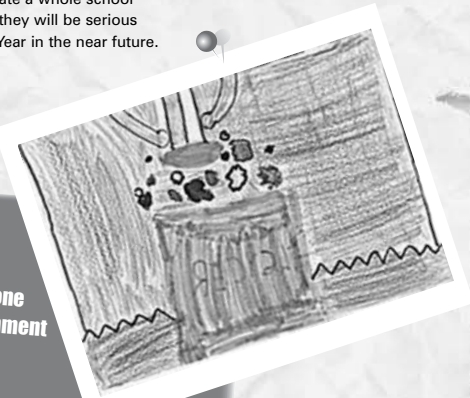
WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Greenvale
Northern Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 713
Principal: Lloyd Mitchell
Phone: (03) 9333 2500
Contact: Debbie Tilley

Highlights

- Although still in their first year of being Waste Wise, Greenvale Primary has already made significant progress in terms of planning and implementation of the program.
- The students, teachers and parents have made a positive contribution to the local area through Schools' Clean Up Day.
- Benchmarking waste was made possible by conducting an audit of waste generation by the school.
- Litter is minimised by the implementation of designated eating areas. This strategy has proven to be very successful in reducing litter with each school group being rewarded for their efforts.
- Estimated savings due to use of a water tank for toilets is approximately \$4,000 per annum.
- Greenvale Primary has been able to generate a whole school approach in a very short time. No doubt, they will be serious contenders for Waste Wise School of the Year in the near future.

"In essence we need to make all environmental practices normal everyday procedures that everyone performs..." Debbie Tilley, Environment Charter Team Leader



REGIONAL WINNER 2005

Lara Secondary College

WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Lara
Barwon Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 270
Principal: Greg Spelling
Phone: (03) 5282 8988
Contact: Robert Galtry

Highlights

- In a very short time, Lara secondary College was so successful in first, recycling waste paper then actually reducing the amount of paper used. From twelve 240 litre bins for 250 students and 25 staff in 2004, the school was able to cater for 450 students and 38 staff with only 14 paper recycling bins in 2005.
- Significant gains have been made in waste segregation, composting, waste reduction and re-use of materials.
- Grants have been received from the Barwon Regional Waste Management Group in recognition of their efforts and the school now supports other schools in the area.
- 100% of all food waste and food and drink containers used in the school are recycled.
- Students from Lara Secondary College have made significant contributions to the local community through involvement in education and environment projects.

"It was opportune to start the program with the opening of the school so that good habits were formed at the beginning."
Robert Galtry, Waste Management Co-ordinator



REGIONAL WINNER 2005

Macclesfield Primary School

WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Macclesfield
Eastern Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 229
Principal: John Chiswell
Phone: (03) 5968 4734
Contact: Diane Ashcroft

Highlights

- Macclesfield Primary School has designated eating areas, eliminating the need for bins in the school yard.
- Winning the Rubbish Free Lunch Challenge was a major highlight for the school in 2005.
- "Compost Captains" are responsible for the supervision and maintenance of the compost bins. Leftover food scraps are fed to the school chooks.
- In only one year, the school reduced its waste to landfill collections from weekly to fortnightly, reduced the bin size by 50% and saved about \$2,000 in collection fees.
- Students researched and presented the comparative cost of bulk versus individually packed lunch box items in the school newsletter.
- There is no doubt that Macclesfield Primary School has a whole school approach and are very proactive in their Waste Wise initiatives.

"A rubric has been designed for Environment Captains and Compost Captains to allocate points to each grade for how well they organise their rubbish disposal."
Diane Ashcroft, Science/Environment Co-ordinator



REGIONAL WINNER 2005

Northcote High School

WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Northcote
Northern Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 250
Principal: Kerrie Williams
Phone: (03) 9488 2300
Contact: Chris Erlandsen

Highlights

- Student ownership of designated areas and responsibility for its maintenance has seen a decrease in litter in those areas.
- A large water tank was installed as a result of a Landcare Grant from Bunnings. The water is used on the garden areas, which were also a student initiative.
- Waste Wise curriculum activities include calculations of mulch requirements for the garden (maths), art projects that represent the consequences of failing to care for the environment, water quality testing (science) and a number of others.
- Students have been involved in Planet Ark tree planting activities and have adopted their section of the Merri Creek to mind.
- As a result of the recycling message's success, many more recycling bins are needed and the amount of waste going to landfill has dropped markedly.
- Several students conducted a survey that clearly demonstrated an interest in having a garden area. They also sought ideas about the plantings, layout and name of their garden; it is called the Harmony Garden.

"...the portables area (Siberia) is a fairly unwelcoming place. Our proposal is to change the configuration of our portables into semi-circular, horseshoe patterns with lots of seating and indigenous gardens for our middle years students..."
Chris Erlandsen, Environment Co-ordinator



REGIONAL WINNER 2005

Princes Hill Primary School

WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Carlton North
Western Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 444
Principal: Gillian Collins
Phone: (03) 9389 5300
Contact: Sharon Knight

Highlights

- At Princes Hill Primary, there is an estimated 80% reduction of waste materials going to landfill.
- The whole school participated in the Rubbish Free Lunch Day Challenge and a marked reduction in rubbish was achieved.
- PHPS has well established compost bins and an active Environment Club.
- A 3-bin system has been implemented, thus reducing the amount of co-mingling of waste.
- The Junior Schools Council is actively involved in decision making and all of the students do the auditing, monitoring and communicating based around the Waste Wise Schools program.

"Sustainability is a school priority so all staff, students and some parents are involved in ... making our school Waste Wise in 2005."
Waste Minimisation and Litter Reduction Policy



REGIONAL WINNER 2005

St Mary's Primary School

WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Rutherglen
North Eastern Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 48
Principal: Michael Glass
Phone: (02) 6032 9284
Contact: Clare Welch

"The social benefits enable students to develop core values within a co-operative and caring community..." Trish Glass, Teacher

Highlights

- St Mary's students take their own litter home with them, thus reducing the amount of litter at school.
- Canteen lunches are served in lunch boxes so that there is no packaging to dispose of.
- A significant amount of materials are re-used in art rooms, classrooms and in office areas.
- Printer and toner cartridges are taken for recycling. Being in a rural location, the distances driven to do this are an indication of the school's commitment.

Tyabb Primary School

WINNER: REGIONAL WASTE WISE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Location: Tyabb
Mornington Peninsula Regional Waste Management Group
Student Enrolment: 351
Principal: Greg Lacey
Phone: (03) 5977 4584
Contact: Sue Shergold



Highlights

- Wrapper-free lunches are commonplace, reducing litter by approximately 95% since inception.
- Tyabb Primary School has a dedicated 0.5 Environmental Science Teacher whose role it is to develop and provide environmental science lessons to Years 4, 5 and 6 students.
- A number of grants have been received for:
 - the establishment of compost bins and the chook shed,
 - vegetable garden development,
 - school grounds improvements.
- Some of the many social benefits include pride in the school, teamwork and a sense of community.

"A great school that has taken the initiative to start programs ... (and are) heading in the right direction." Emily Boucher, REO