

Sustainability Program Update December 2015

The Sustainability Program is continuing in the school under the direction of Ceres as part of Resource Smart Schools, which is a Victorian Government initiative seeking to embed Sustainability in everything we do.

Since 2008 the school has entered details of all Electricity, Gas, Water and Paper usage and waste disposal volumes within the Resource Smart Schools computer program and has endeavoured to reduce usage in all these areas.

As a measure of the school's progress schools are required to obtain certification in the five areas of Core, Energy, Water, Waste and Biodiversity with the core module being a general administration module.

The school has previously achieved certification in Energy, Waste and Biodiversity but these will require updating next year.

This year we have concentrated on the core module and as part of the requirements for certification we have produced the School Environment Management Plan 2015-2019 which contains the overall mission, details of usage, staff comments and proposals for the future.

As in past years three Sustainability Captains were elected at the start of the year being Wesley, Jayden, and Thomas.

During the year the Captains worked in the vegetable garden with our volunteer gardeners Kevin and Jim. They harvested the winter crop mid-year and sold the produce to parents with the proceeds going to the local St Vincent de Paul. They planted the summer vegetables in September and have a good crop ready for harvest before Break up and will again sell the produce to the parents.

They also did gardening involving cleaning up at the front of the school and did pruning and maintenance in the Frog Pond area.