

7th Annual Bush Block Busy Bee Saturday 17th September 2022

As the guardians of our school's Bush Block, T2 and Room 21 are very proud of it. In previous years, our classes have developed this area of our natural environment by planting a Bush Tucker Garden, building a nature play area and creating a seasonal frog pond.

This zone is used for a variety of purposes by different classes during school time and is well frequented by students, across all year levels, during Monday and Friday lunchtimes. We hope that this will inspire them to protect and preserve our natural environment now and into their future lives!

This year the 7th Bush Block Busy Bee was held on Saturday 17th September 2022. Fortunately, gardening conditions were conducive and the forecast rain only sent us scurrying for shelter in the final 15 minutes, after all the work was completed.

During these 2 hours we were able to prepare our precious Bush Block for summer by conducting general maintenance, including re-filling the sand pits, creating borders around the garden beds and mulching. As the date for the Busy Bee was later than usual, we didn't plant this year, but pruned and made 'summer ready' the existing plants.

An enormous thank you to the team of T2 and Room 21 students, Adam and Jack Pendlebury, James Sutton, Aiden and Liam Wilkes, Eddie Townsend, Theo Hausen, Eli Woolsey, Sophie and Daphne Harberts and your family members for giving up your time to assist. The morning's accomplishments were only possible as a result of your enthusiasm, skilful teamwork and serious muscle power.

A very big thank you to the Parkfield P&C for their donation which enabled us to purchase the sand and mulch and keep money in reserve for next year's plant purchase.

Jan Sullivan and I would also like to express our appreciation to our family members who assisted as well.

As the caretakers of our Bush Block, we continue to hope that the wider Parkfield community will recognise what we are trying to achieve within our natural haven and will treat it with respect. However, we ask that if you happen to be passing, please keep an eye out and report anything unusual, or anyone doing the wrong thing, to the Australind Police immediately on 9720 6200.

Sarah Dunbar-Stuart and Jan Sullivan



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Parkfield Learning and Understanding Sustainability Update

Waste Warriors

We are very fortunate at Parkfield Primary School to have a dedicated team of Year 4-6 students who commit one of their lunchtimes each week to assist the rest of the school with correctly separating their waste into the appropriate waste stream so that organic waste and recyclable items are diverted from landfill. Organic items are placed in the school's FOGO (Food Organics Garden Organics) bin or fed to our school's worms. Some students choose to provide this service for one term only, while others choose to do so repeatedly. Their efforts inspire 'new crew' each term.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of our Waste Warriors, and their assistance with our environmental endeavours, and are proud of the leadership they show by taking on this role. Many of our Waste Warriors have since gone on to become either House Captains or Student Councillors as this initiative prepares them well for the responsibilities required of these roles.

During Term 3, I asked our wonderful Waste Warriors to contribute their 'WOW (Words of Wisdom) from our Waste Warriors!' based on their observations. We would like to share some of these with you.

Abby McLoughlin: "It is incredible how much whole food is wasted! This includes uneaten sandwiches, lunch orders from the canteen and apples without a single bite taken from them!"

Clarissa McNally and Sophia Kilmartin: Please can everyone put their straws in the correct place (plastic straws in the landfill bin and paper ones in the Waste Warrior box). Make sure your UNBROKEN 10c cans, bottles and boxes go in the crate so we get the money for the school.

Mrs D-S: Did you know worms don't eat plastic? So please put plastics, such as your tomato sauce and sausage roll wrappers, into the landfill bin.

Worms aren't fans of citrus (lemon, mandarin, orange etc.) either! Please separate these items so they can be put into the FOGO bin to be composted.

It is wonderful to continue to see the large number of students eating waste free lunches or lunches that contain very little single use plastic. Next year, we hope to recommence Waste Free Wednesdays once again.

Pictured below are some of our wonderful Term 3 Waste Warriors. We would like to thank these students for their service.



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