



## 8th Annual Bush Block Busy Bee Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023

The Bush Block Busy Bee is an annual tradition which engages numerous members of our school community to assist with maintaining the school's Bush Block. In previous years, students from T2 and Room 16, along with their family members, have developed this area of our natural environment by planting native plants to provide a haven for animals and birds, creating a seasonal frog pond and establishing an environment that is conducive to nature play, where students can discover the beauty of the great outdoors!

During school hours our Bush Block is used for a variety of purposes by different classes. It is also well frequented by students, across all year levels, during Monday and Friday lunchtimes. We hope that this will inspire individuals to protect and preserve our natural environment now and into their future lives!

This year, we held our 8<sup>th</sup> Busy Bee on Saturday 1 July 2023. We had a marvellous turn out, including one Parkfield family, the Roberts Family, who have attended all but one Busy Bee over the past 8 years!

During the customary 2 hours, we were able to reinvigorate our precious Bush Block by conducting general maintenance, including re-filling the sand pits, creating sturdy borders around the garden beds, pruning existing flora and embedding new native plants before placing mulch around them to protect them - proof that many hands do indeed make light work!

An enormous THANK YOU to the huge team of current and former T2 and Room 16 students and their family members for giving up their time to assist: Adam and Jack Pendlebury, Cooper and Lachie Dyer, William and Anna Bickford, Jeremy and Malachi George, Ivy Clark, Lucas and Karlee O'Driscoll, Ashlee Kaurin, Daniel Sullivan, Lucy and Jake Pedder, Max and Sam Turner, Flynn and Blayne Connor, Victor Mills, Levi Fraser and the Roberts Family. This year's Busy Bee achievements were only possible because of your enthusiasm, skilful teamwork, and serious muscle power! Your community spirit and service were greatly appreciated.

A very big thank you once again to the Parkfield P&C for their donation last year which enabled us to purchase the variety of native plants planted this year.

Jan and I would also like to express our appreciation to Chaplain Jo Campbell, Miss Molly Woods and my mum who assisted as well. We would also like to acknowledge and thank Samantha Pickering from the Shire of Harvey for providing the stakes and guards for the new plants. Finally, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our gardener, Warren Plumb, for all his advice, assistance, and support of this project since its inception 8 years ago.

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. Thank you.

Sarah Dunbar-Stuart and Jan Sullivan

## 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.

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. Later this term, we hope to recommence Waste Free Wednesdays once again.

Finally, please consider utilising **Parkfield's Community Recycling Station** (located outside of the front office) if you have any of the following items:

- \*aluminium cans
- \*batteries
- \*mobile phones (including batteries and accessories)
- \*ink cartridges
- \*newspapers (collected by the P&C to be sold and used as hydro mulch)



We are also a collection point for **Containers for Change**. Please look for the **blue sulo bins** in the car park area and help raise money for our P&C. **Our scheme number is: C10313397** if you are depositing directly to vending machines.

Thank you to the P&C volunteers for returning the collected containers to the refund point at Stanley Road Regional Waste Management Facility.



Image: <https://watchyourwaste.wa.gov.au>