



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA COMMUNITY STORIES

SCHOOL CASE STUDIES



SCHOOL CASE STUDY 1

GIPPSLAND GRAMMAR-BAIRNSDALE CAMPUS

SCHOOL: Gippsland Grammar-Bairnsdale Campus
LOCATION: Wy Yung, VIC
CLEAN UPS TO DATE: 10

SCHOOL STORY:

Since the beginning of our campus in 2006, we have had an environmental program, first called Waste Watch, and later relaunched as the Green Team in 2013, which has developed and is going strong in 2024. Over these years we have had waste awareness programs such as Nude Food lunches, and class competitions such as Trash Free Tuesday.

We have communicated with families so that they have been able to support their children in this effort. We have a school wide compost system with every classroom, staff room and our school tuck shop, with compost being produced to enhance vegetable garden soil quality.

We are working towards plastic free classroom in upper year levels. Reusable white-board markers, Students in Year 6 receive one wooden refillable pen for the year, no textas or single use glue sticks. Plastic rulers and sharpeners replaced with wooden ones.

We have a second-hand uniform shop where families can sell and buy second hand uniforms.

Our School Tuck shop uses majority of paper/ cardboard packaging. Staff are encouraged to use reusable drink bottles and keep cups for staff professional development days. No eating outside to reduce litter.

Students have learned to think about the longevity of single-use plastics and packaging, and how these can be reused and recycled. Most importantly, perhaps, is that students think about how they can personally minimise the use of single-use plastics.

The location of our school is on the banks Mitchel River Backwater which gives students a working model of how plastic can enter waterways though run off from drains and gutters.

SCHOOL CASE STUDY 1

GIPPSLAND GRAMMAR-BAIRNSDALE CAMPUS

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Activities to date include:

- 2020, 2021 Marine Mammal Foundation - Marine Litter Project - Students assess waste
- Members Resource Smart Education Program - tracking and monitoring waste from school, monitoring and reducing energy and water consumption.

Projects integrated into the curriculum:

- 2019, 2020, 2021 involved with a Coast Care project at Raymond Island where students were actively involved in measuring and monitoring coastline of Raymond Island. Measuring water quality, biodiversity and rubbish.
- 2022, 2023, 2024 became partners with East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority to encourage stewardship of the Mitchel River. Involved with managing weeds, conducting wildlife surveys, planting over 2500 trees and educational incursions.

- 2021 Chicken shed built by Year 6 students as a legacy project and integrated into Maths Curriculum.
- Ongoing- Compost system integrated throughout the school.
- 2021/2022 constructed four new vegetable garden beds
- 2023/2024 (ongoing) Giving Garden cooking program, where students cook produce from garden and give to needy people in community lean Up
- 2024- Worm farm built.

SCHOOL CASE STUDY 2

TELOPEA PARK SCHOOL

SCHOOL: Telopea Park School
LOCATION: Barton, ACT
CLEAN UPS TO DATE: 5

SCHOOL STORY:

We are involved in an existing program. The school organizes actions aimed at sustainable development at the end of each month (green days) these days aim to raise students' awareness of current problems linked to the environment.

So, this year we have, for example, in term 1 and term 2:

- Friday 23 February: Recycling bin
- Friday 1 March: School Clean Up Day / World Wildlife Day
- Friday 22 March: World Water Day
- Friday 12 April: International Composting Awareness
- Friday 31 May: World Bee Day
- Friday 28 June: World Ocean Day

We also have a group of eco delegates very involved in the school who organise one-off actions to collect waste. Finally, after lunch time, children are encouraged to help the community by picking up trash from the ground.

Our school is part of the SSP program (Sustainable School Program). We try to reduce waste emissions in the school as much as possible. We do selective sorting and also have a special corner for recycling. In this corner there is the bin for the caps for the lids 4 kids association, a bin for collecting the 10 centimes, and a last one for the used felt-tip pens.

We also have a partnership with a worm farm, so there is worm bins all over our school to collect what is compostable.

We regularly organise student-led audits of our bins to check whether sorting is done correctly. Activities are carried out to raise awareness among students from a very young age. Our eco delegates who have been proposing actions for two years already, for example, they have relabeled all the school bins.

SCHOOL CASE STUDY 2

TELOPEA PARK SCHOOL

CONTINUED...

A Telopea Park School eco-delegate:

- is an ambassador for ecological transition and sustainable development to other students, contribute to their awareness and mobilization
- promotes behaviors in favor of the ecological transition
- proposes and carries out concrete projects to contribute to sustainable development in the classroom, the establishment and nearby areas
- actively participate in projects implemented in the establishment in Favor of the ecological transition.

Our school's PAC takes care of all lost belongings and runs a second hand stand for school uniforms.

Together, we can manage to clean a very large area on our clean up days. The students are always surprised to see that the waste can be very small but that at the end in the trash or when weighed it represents a large quantity.



SCHOOL CASE STUDY 3

CENTRAL-WEST LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



SCHOOL: Central-west Leadership Academy
LOCATION: Dubbo, NSW
CLEAN UPS TO DATE: 8

SCHOOL STORY:

Our first Clean Up was in 2018. We do the annual School Clean Up Day and have also organised some every day clean ups. We have been attending Dubbo River Care and Dubbo Council's Clean Up days every year for the last 8 years as a whole school community event, getting students and parents alike involved.

We have a sustainability education program. We are a nude food school, participate in the local council's Waste Warriors every year with our primary school, we are off-grid with our solar (connected next month), and have won the Excellence in Sustainability Awards from the Dubbo Business Chamber in 2022.

We reduce printing by distributing material electronically, we compost our recess and lunch waste, we set climate control to 21 degrees, in our recent renovation, and we installed toilets with sinks in the back to reduce water waste.

We volunteer to clean up near the Macquarie River where many of our students play soccer on the weekend. They are always shocked by how much waste we find which are kids soccer snack wrappers, drink bottles etc, and how it all blows down into the river. They can see the impact of poor choices by kids by cleaning it up.

SCHOOL CASE STUDY 4

PALLARA STATE SCHOOL

SCHOOL: Pallara State School
LOCATION: Pallara, QLD
CLEAN UPS TO DATE: 6

SCHOOL STORY:

When our school campus opened in 2016, we were provided with only general waste bins and services. Soon after, at the behest of students and with staff support, we implemented paper and cardboard recycling.

Year 4 classes surveyed the school to ascertain the number of plastic bags used to collect waste - the result was horrendous.

Over the following years we have implemented the following:

- Food scrap collection from classrooms and eating areas - utilising scrap buckets and green bins
- Compost bins to support the Kitchen Garden club
- 10c container collection
- Worm farms
- Gardens that supply our school tuckshop with produce

- We now have daily rosters of students collecting trollies with green (food waste) and white (10c containers) bins from all eating areas, Outside School Hours Care, tuckshop and other areas
- Students empty, clean and return bins
- Food scraps (including breads, meats and dairy) are now processed through our industrial composter - up to 100kg per week!
- Specialist Environment Education Program that in part involves students in lessons about waste and solutions to problems - lessons about the bins start in Prep as the proper use of the bins has to be taught explicitly.
- Posters in classrooms and eating areas remind students what goes in each bin
- Students are taught about the bins - how they are to be used, what happens to the waste, solutions to waste problems, and the significance of these problems

SCHOOL CASE STUDY 4

PALLARA STATE SCHOOL

CONTINUED...

- Wrapper Free Wednesday (WFW) - to encourage at least one day where students don't bring plastic in their lunch boxes. WFW presents a video each parade to celebrate participation.
- Participation in the Eco Marines and Global Links Queensland programs and the Sustainability and Science Schools Showcase
- Won awards at the Brisbane City Council WasteSMART awards
- Written a book called "Trash Travels" through our Eco Marines students
- We have taken students on excursions to waste processing and landfill facilities
- We also have: coffee cup collection, used battery, and marking pen collections
- Our School Environment Management Plan advocates various ways to reduce plastic consumption.





THANK YOU



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