

Wise Water & Waste Management Newsletter



This newsletter is collaboration between **Rous Water** and the **North East Waste Forum** to inform, inspire and strengthen outcomes for wise waste and water use and Education for Sustainability in our local Early Childhood Services.

East Lismore Preschool make a huge water saving

East Lismore Preschool is now brimming with devices that make a huge saving with water consumption. Thanks to their hard work writing a successful Community Water Grant they got the money needed to upgrade the Centre's facilities. Not only did all single flush toilets (staff & children) change over to dual flush but they installed two tanks out the side, to collect water from the Centre's roof for toilet flushing. Then every tap was changed over to a newer version with flow restrictors or tap aerators. This included press down, spring loaded taps in the children's hand basins.

And for outdoor uses, there is another tank, collecting the rain from their sand-pit roof. To help tune the children into the tank water level, a weighted rope hangs down at the front (visible but inside a pipe). During my recent visit the tank was getting very low and the children were keen for more rain, a fun and very valuable learning experience.

Unfortunately not only were several Centres unsuccessful with this grant but it also no longer exists, leaving Early Childhood Centres with no avenues for support, at the moment!

Congratulations to the Staff for making all this happen. The outcomes of your actions for sustainable water use are significant and ongoing, for the children, their families and the community.

Barbara

New outdoor tank with a red knob to show the current water level.



Win a tank

I am continually inspired by the commitment of the staff and the genuine enthusiasm of the children to take on water conservation actions. This year I have been taking photographs of the actions Services have achieved to put on the Rous Water website.



In recognition of your efforts I have another tank prize (a 1130 litres Duraplas tank + \$250 for installation) for 2008. It is drawn on 1/11/08, good luck to all.

For program information, Centres reports, action table etc visit **Water School** at www.rouswater.nsw.gov.au and look under the Early Childhood Section.

September 2008

NEWS

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- East Lismore Preschool make a huge water saving
- Win a tank
- Book WAC Program



back page

- Evaluation of the Waste Wise program
- Jack & Jill Preschool Grafton Promoting Low Waste Lunches
- Book the program

Wise Waste and Water Workshops for all:

Date: Thursday 13th Nov

Place: Grafton

Details on back page...

BOOK Water Aware Centre Program

- Children's story & song session
- Bucket of books (loan)
- Parent display (loan)
- Audit (1st & 2nd years or as needed)

New Centres & repeat visits all welcome.

Barbara Jensen
Telephone 6623 3827



Early Childhood Waste Wise Education Project

Evaluation shows commitment to Waste Wise strategies

Evaluation of the first twelve months of the North East Waste Forum (NEWF) Early Childhood Waste Wise Education Project has been completed. Services taking part in the project were very committed to reducing the amount of rubbish thrown out and produced on site each day.

Services showed a commitment to separating waste effectively, recycling effectively, composting and worm farming and to sharing information with families. Preschools in particular were able to promote low waste lunches to encourage participation of the low waste focus with families. One Long Day Care Centre reduced the amount of disposable nappies used each day which is a great commitment from staff. Participants indicated that their knowledge and skill levels had increased with regards to reducing waste during the course of the project. Services agreed that the project had enabled them to integrate a waste wise focus into the children's activities, routines and into their everyday interactions with the children.

The evaluation report is available at www.northeastwasteforum.org.au. A resource kit is also available on our website. Thankyou to staff and parents for their support and interest in reducing waste in our community and incorporating low waste concepts into their curriculum and routines.

Jack & Jill Preschool Grafton - Promoting Low Waste Lunches

Jack Ford and Izzy Brennan are pictured with teachers Robyn Nixon (left) and Kath Lentfer (right).



BOOK THE PROGRAM: The Early Childhood Waste Wise Project visits include a waste audit, advice on recycling and composting for your Service, a free worm farm or compost bin donated by your local Council, a children's group time and lots of great resources! Many thanks to local Councils who are sponsoring this Project.

Georgie Piper: Telephone 66813968 or www.northeastwasteforum.org.au

Free Workshop

Our Children & Our Environment: take action, take care!

A workshop to promote & support Early Childhood Services to take practical actions for a sustainable future.

Date: Thursday 13 November, 3 hours

Place: Grafton, (exact time and location to be announced)

For more information or to express you interest in attending please contact:

Barbara Jensen phone 6623 3827 or email barbara.jensen@rouswater.nsw.gov.au