



ONE STEP



The digital newsletter of the Environmental Action Team

*It takes 375mls of water to make three sheets of A4 paper
so please think before printing this newsletter ☺*

December 2016

Welcome to the final edition of the 'One Step' Newsletter for 2016.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to all members of the Golden Grove High School community, staff, students and parents alike, for their contributions to sustainable practices this year. We have seen some excellent new initiatives come in to play and, more importantly, we have made some significant steps forward to achieving our goals of being an environmentally friendly and sustainable school.

We would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas filled with love, joy and happiness. Have a safe holiday break and we look forward to working with you all again in 2017.

Sustainability Award Winners: Design and Technology department and Senior Unit class

Leading the way by example



We would like to congratulate the Design and Technology department for winning the Staff Sustainability Award for 2016. For many years they have been setting a high standard, particularly in recycling and the reuse of materials. Here are just a few of the reasons why this faculty is such a deserving winner:

- They recycle all metals in partnership with the “Scout”
- Timber is recycled extensively from stock and reused
- There has been an extensive reduction in the use of paper by presenting work electronically
- Recently begun a partnership with a local company to recycle their Acrylic (plastic) off cuts
- They recycle projects for their materials and also to other faculties (Art—Chairs for display)
- They have an E-waste process from electronics
- They teach students to “nest” projects on sheet material when using the CNC mill and laser cutter, therefore minimising wastage
- They are pro-active in turning off lights in their rooms and workshops.

Students loving being green

We are also very proud to congratulate the Senior Unit students for winning the Student Sustainability Award for 2016. Last year we saw new vegetable and herb beds installed and planted by this dedicated group of students. Julie Dawson and Anna Dunn, through much hard work and devotion, managed to achieve an educational relationship with the wonderful staff from Bunnings at Modbury. Since then the Senior Unit class have managed this garden outside of C-Block lawns so the students can use the veggies and herbs in their catering kitchen, within which they have also established recycling and compost. It was an absolute pleasure presenting this class with the Award and it is very exciting to see a group of young people so engaged in sustainable practices!



Some handy hints for the Christmas season

We absolutely love Christmas! However, over the festive season Australians consume more and have a greater impact on the environment. Here are a few very handy hints to help you choose wisely, reduce waste and recycle more, minimising our impact this December whilst still enjoying Christmas just as you have always done.

The 12 Do's of Christmas

PLANET ARK

'Tis the season to commit to reduce, reuse and recycle

1 Buy good quality decorations that can be reused or make your own. I will do this

2 Check that your work Christmas party organiser sets up well-signed recycling options for the event.

3 Find out what your recipients really want, or choose an experience or charity gift.

4 Choose reusable or recyclable wrapping, like paper.

5 Download the free RecycleSmart App for all your household recycling needs.

6 Prevent food waste – plan ahead and serve smaller portions. Compost or worm farm your food scraps.

7 Most food and drink packaging is recyclable. Sort and flatten it to fit as much as possible in your bin.

8 Recycle old mobile phones, printer cartridges, computers and tablets that get replaced.

9 Give a recharger pack with any battery-operated gifts – it'll save money and reduce the gift's impact.

10 Ensure your car runs efficiently by inflating the tyres and tuning the engine, and recycle your old car oil, tyres and batteries.

11 De-clutter the house - recycle from the yard, garage and attic.

12 See if your council has a special mulching service for live Christmas trees or take it to the garden section of your local recycling facility.

For more information on these recycling tips, to find local options and to reduce your eco footprint this Christmas visit 12dos.planetark.org