



1 March 2018

Students faced with waste open their eyes to being wise

Swanbourne Primary School students were given an insight into how to be “waste wise” during their science week activities in February.

Coordinated by the City of Nedlands, Year 1 to 6 students were led through numerous interactive workshops by Waste Education Officer Robyn Brown to learn more about this year’s sustainable theme of being waste wise.

More than 100 students took part, sorting through bins for a waste audit and then looking at where waste food could go instead of landfill, such as worm farms and compost.

“Worm farms decrease the amount of organic waste normally put in school rubbish bins,” City of Nedlands Waste Minimisation Coordinator Chaminda Mendis said.

“They help us to close the recycling loop because our organic waste is changed into fertiliser for our plants, which then produce food for us to eat.

“During the waste audit, the students found a lot of plastic and food waste in their bins.

“Part of their learning included simple recycling tips for their lunches, such as swapping single-use plastic with re-usable lunchboxes and drink bottles instead.”

Mr Mendis said Swanbourne Primary School approached the City of Nedlands for its expertise in waste management and sustainability.

It forms part of the waste wise program the City is currently rolling out with primary schools within local boundary areas.

“We want to ensure local, practical and relevant knowledge is shared with students so they can gain an understanding of how waste management affects their suburb and surrounding areas,” he said.

City of Nedlands Mayor Max Hipkins said nearly a quarter of all waste found in an average Nedlands rubbish bin could be recycled instead.

“The City currently diverts 54 per cent of waste from landfill and we are aiming for 65 per cent by 2020,” he said.

“We offer second recycling bins to all residents for free – but it’s important to only place recyclable items inside your yellow-lidded bins.

“Nedlands residents are also eligible for subsidised worm farms, compost bins and Bokashi compost bins by contacting the City.”



CAPTION

Swanbourne Primary School students Carl, Abby, Jessica and Cooper with principal Trevor Mitchell, back left, and Waste Education Officer Robyn Brown.

About the City of Nedlands

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of more than 21,000 lives in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

For further information, please contact communications@nedlands.wa.gov.au or 9273 3500.