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Hi <<First Name>> ,

Welcome back to 2023! I hope this newsletter finds everyone well and settled into term 1 and ready for a great year of more sustainable school initiatives.

I want to thank Middle Harbour Public Schools students for hosting the first Zero Emissions Schools Network meeting of 2023. It was great to hear about all the great things they are doing and see first hand their recycling station that won them third prize at the Taronga Zoo event last November. They also shared their 2023 plans and heard about their Power Off, Earth On initiative. This initiative tries to include a 40 minute learning session outside every week and try not to use any electricity. School wide that equals 800 minutes! Well done Middle Harbour Public School!

We also had guest speaker Dennis Hensman present to us from Optimum Control Technologies. We learned how live energy data can help you see problems in your schools energy consumption and pinpoint ways you can save money and energy.

For those that missed the Taronga Zoo Zero Emissions School Event, here is a great promotional video of the schools program highlighting that wonderful morning last November.



Here are our meeting dates for 2023:
Term 2 - Redlands Wednesday, 24th May
Term 3 - Blessed Sacrament Tuesday, 15th August
Term 4 - Mosman High Tuesday, 14th November

New Zero Emissions Schools Network Facilitator:

If you are passionate about the environment and believe youth have the power to be change makers...why not sign up to volunteer with the Zero Emission Schools Program? We are looking for a new Schools Network leader for 2024. Be inspired by the students in your local area and help facilitate new ideas and enthusiasm around sustainability. Please contact: schools@zerosydneynorth.org if interested in learning more.

Eco Resources



Zero Positive

I love schools and community hubs as a great focal point for developing change. Zero Positive for Schools (ZP4S) is a UN endorsed non for profit. Their program focuses on the gamification of live energy, utility and consumption data and through curriculum aligned education modules from years 1-11. The platform has engaged over 1400 Australian Schools, supplied state and federal government programs and currently has 4200 active teacher accounts. Sign up today! https://www.zeropositive.org/

NSW DoE Commitment to Sustainability

The NSW Department of Education has released the Commitment to Sustainability, recognising the important role that public education has in empowering students, staff and school communities to live sustainably.

Environment Youth Advisory Council

The NSW EPA has recently released a Youth Engagement Strategy, outlining their principals, objectives and key initiatives for engaging with young people, listening to their views and involving them in the EPA's work. The strategy has been informed by the Environment Youth Advisory Council which comprises of 12 young people from across NSW.

Ride2School

Register for Ride to School Day on 25 March 2023, download the engagement booklet for a step-by-step guide to encourage more students to be active on their journey to and from school by riding, walking, scooting and skating. If you are looking to explore environment and transport issues at school, the Sustainability Action Process teaching resources supports problem-solving on sustainable transport through active student participation.



Lug+Carrie

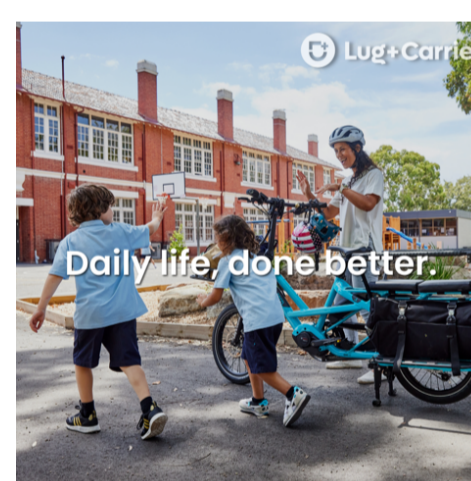
Can't handle the Mosman Slopes? Can't find a park at your favourite beach? Looking to reduce your car use especially for those short trips? Sign up for a cargo E-bike for the school drop and pick-ups!

For a manageable weekly fee you receive;

- An award winning e-bike.
Included maintenance + repairs carried out at you home when it suits you.
Rider rescue - we send a vehicle if you get stuck with a flat tyre, a flat battery or any other breakdown.
Insurance for theft and damage.

Our product is designed to be a low commitment + easy way to try a fun new way of getting around with the family.

- Delivered to your door
No lock in contract - simply give us 4 weeks notice and we'll pick the bike up if you decide to cancel.
Powerful motors + stable bikes so you don't need to be fit or an experienced bike rider.
Enough cargo capacity and huge range of accessories to leave the car at home.



Click here to get started.

Earthcare Schools

The Catholic Earthcare Schools program is available to all Catholic schools in Australia. It involves a process of ecological dialogue and action, which inspires Catholic schools to respond to the call of Laudato Si to care for our common home. It is a process driven accreditation program that supports student led faith driven actions. Find out more here

Grants & Competitions

Sustainable Schools Grants for public schools

DoE have announced Round 5 of the Sustainable Schools Grants for NSW public schools and preschools, open 27 February - 30 March 2023. Up to \$15,000 funding is available to deliver hands-on, sustainability-focused projects that link to the NSW curriculum.

Junior Landcare Grants

Landcare Australia is offering grants up to \$1,000 for children from across the country to get hands-on with the natural environment through projects that focus on sustainable food production, improving waste management practices and recycling, enhancing native habitats and deepening connections to First Nations perspectives. Applications open until 17 March 2023.

Paint Australia Beautiful

Keep Australia Beautiful invites primary schools to visualise their natural environment, design a school mural and enter for the change to win. The competition encourages celebration of environment and sustainability, creativity and collaboration. Submissions due 6 April.

Recycling

Terracycle GLAD

Recycle your lunch box soft plastics with the Terracycle GLAD Food Care Free Recycling Program for your school's chance to win a Subpod Grow Bundle and voucher! Competition open until 30 June 2023.

RecycleSmart is collecting Soft Plastics again!

The RecycleSmart program is again recycling soft plastics through their program after it was paused last November following the collapse of previous recycling options.

RecycleSmart has partnered with innovative Australian recycling company APR Plastics to recycle the waste into food-grade plastic packaging again, creating a circular waste solution.

Visit the WEBSITE to book a Power Pickup for soft plastics at home or contact them to see if you can arrange soft plastic collection from your school.



Jenni Hagland
Schools Program Leader



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