

Hello and welcome to the Winter edition of the REEN Newsletter for 2008.

The City of Ryde has numerous activities for schools coming up and ALL are encouraged to join in the fun and learn about our environment.



## 2008 RUBBISH FREE LUNCH

City of Ryde is calling for interested schools to take up the challenge to reduce their impact on the environment through minimising the amount of waste produced.

### What is involved?

1. Select a day in September and collect and weigh lunchtime rubbish
2. Implement student discussions on ways to reduce, reuse and recycle
3. Hold a rubbish free lunch day and collect and weigh the lunchtime rubbish again

**\$300** will be awarded to the school with the lowest rubbish weight (per capita)

**\$300** will be awarded to the school with the biggest change in rubbish weight (per capita)

**To register and accept the Challenge please call Emily Doyle BY FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST**

### Next Meeting Details

The next meeting will be hosted at St Charles Primary School. Come along and enjoy afternoon tea while hearing about the latest environmental education initiatives within the City of Ryde.

Please RSVP to Emily Doyle  
 Where: St Charles Primary  
 Address: 582 Victoria Rd, RYDE  
 When: Thursday 21 August  
 Time: 4.00 - 5.30pm

Please Recycle Me

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY SNAPSHOT



### North Ryde Public School

North Ryde Public School was a flurry of activity celebrating World Environment Day. Special environmentally themed murals (pictured) were completed by each class from K through to 6. In addition, North Ryde also held a fashion parade (pictured) with a “Green Theme” for their World Environment Day assembly. City of Ryde attended for the judging which was an extremely difficult task with children dressing up as solar powered school signs, trees and energy heroes just to name a few.



### Holy Spirit Public School

Holding a special environmental assembly on World Environment Day, Holy Spirit Primary School were addressed by Mayor Ivan Petch whom presented the school with a climate change book for their library and 100 native plants.



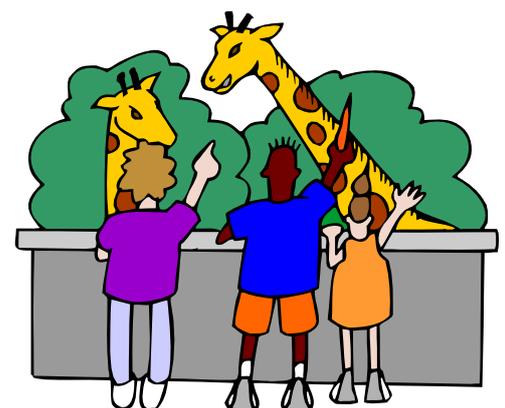
### REMINDER

### Murray Darling Workshops for High School Students

A half day workshop hosted by the Murray Darling Association is available for interested high schools. A representative will facilitate a workshop where students learn about the Murray Darling and key water management processes. Morning tea/lunch provided.

### TARONGA ZOO PRIMARY SCHOOL EXCURSIONS

Congratulations to Gladesville, Ryde, Ermington Public and North Ryde Public Schools' whom have jumped at the opportunity to visit Taronga Zoo. Hosted by the City of Ryde and Taronga Zoo, the schools will be spending a day at the zoo focusing on climate change.





## Guest Speaker—Planet Ark

Attending the next REEN meeting will be Planet Ark to talk about different ways schools can work to reduce their environmental impact.

## WSN GRASSROOTS GRANT PROGRAM

Now in its fourth year the Grass Roots Sponsorship Program, initiated and sponsored by WSN Environmental Solutions, aims to support and promote projects that contribute to waste minimisation and environmental sustainability in their local area.

Grants of up to \$15,000 are available. Applicants have until 29 August 2008 to submit a funding application to The City of Ryde. For more information please contact Emily Doyle.

## Upcoming Events

**25 July Schools National Tree Day**— Find teacher resources along with great ideas at [www.treeday.planetark.com](http://www.treeday.planetark.com)



**27 July National Tree Day**—Australia's biggest community tree planting day.

**16-24 August National Science Week**— The theme for 2008 is "Planet Earth– Planet for Change." For more information visit [www.scienceweek.info.au](http://www.scienceweek.info.au)

**25 –30 August Keep Australia Beautiful Week** [www.kab.org.au](http://www.kab.org.au)

**7 September National Threatened Species Day**

**19 –21 September Clean Up the World Weekend**



## PROGRAMS CURRENTLY ON OFFER...

- Waste Audits
- Stream Watch
- Material Recovery Facility Tours
- Rubbish Free Lunch Challenge
- Waste Education Story time
- Wonderful World of Worms
- Murray Darling workshops for high schools

## WEBSITES TO CHECK OUT!

### Teach Sustainability

[www.teachsustainability.com.au/](http://www.teachsustainability.com.au/)

### ABC's Green At Work

[www.abc.net.au/greenatwork/](http://www.abc.net.au/greenatwork/)

### A recycling game for the kids

[www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE::pc=PC\\_2783](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE::pc=PC_2783)

### A water game for the kids

[www.savewater.com.au](http://www.savewater.com.au)

### Search Engine (for every 1,000 hits a tree is planted)

[www.ecocho.com.au](http://www.ecocho.com.au)

### OzClim– maps climate change impacts

[www.csiro.au/ozclim/home.do](http://www.csiro.au/ozclim/home.do)

### Sydney Water– water management

[www.sydneywater.com.au](http://www.sydneywater.com.au)



## Sydney Food Fairness Alliance

The Sydney Food Fairness Alliance coordinates the efforts of rural producers, health professionals, community workers and community-based advocates active in developing a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable food system in the Sydney region.



Fact sheets on food sustainability and food security may interest local schools, see their website: [www.sydneyfoodfairness.org.au](http://www.sydneyfoodfairness.org.au)  
Contact Barbara Humphrey, Health Promotion Officer, NSCCHP– Ryde, 02 9858 7750



Todae has launched a new initiative focusing on “Eco Schools.” The program aids schools in applying for grants under the new National Solar Schools Program. Helping schools to complete the application **FREE** of charge Todae aims to help Australians’ live more sustainable.

Visit [www.todae.com.au](http://www.todae.com.au) or call 1300 138 483.

## WASTE EDUCATION STORY TIME

In June The City of Ryde focused on waste education at the local libraries story time. Proving to be a huge success with over 90 children attending, story time involves book reading, singing, a DVD and craft activity.

If you think your early childhood classes could benefit from a tailored environmental or waste education story time please contact Sarah Kinsela or Emily Doyle respectively.



## National Solar Schools Program

The National Solar Schools Program will help Australian schools take practical action over the next eight years to tackle climate change.

The Program replaces the Australian Government’s Green Vouchers and will be open for applications in July 2008.

Each school can spend up to \$20,000 on solar panels. To sign up for the program please visit: [www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au)

## CONTACT US

Write to REEN’s coordinators at:

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Submissions are welcome.

EnviroNews is published quarterly. Next issue is due out in November 2008.