



Dear Parents

Willowbank School is an Enviroschool. The kaupapa (values, principles, ideas) of the Enviroschools Programme is about the well-being of the whole school, community and ecosystem. It's about working out how to live so that our society and economy nourishes the natural systems that give us life. Enviroschools gives young people an opportunity to explore real life challenges and to apply their abundance of energy and ideas. Students and schools that are working towards sustainability play a significant role in creating sustainable communities by:

- being role models of sustainable practices
- enabling students to be teachers amongst their families and peers
- creating future leaders who understand how to make informed decisions and take action.

As part of the learning of Education for Sustainability we are focusing on Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Encouraging families and children to work towards **Litterless Lunches** is one of our goals.

Litterless Lunches can be achieved by using small re-useable containers, snap lock plastic bags or paper wrap. As well as being kind on the environment it is also cost effective. We also continue to encourage healthy food options to help improve student focus for learning.

If parents choose to buy lunch paper wrap for wrapping food we can further improve our environmental action, as paper wrap can be recycled into the worm bins with waste food. After two weeks the paper decomposes, the worms eat it, and it becomes worm casting that can be used on the school gardens.

Another initiative we introduced late last year was 'Paper from Homes'. It is an exciting fund raising partnership between the school and Fullcircle Recycling. For every tonne of paper we are paid \$50.00. There are 3 large green bins conveniently located through the side gate next to the office. Please think of the school when you are recycling paper, card, junk mail, books and flattened cardboard boxes. One school in our area earned over \$6000 due to the support from the school community. We are hoping to achieve similar results.

Thank you in anticipation of your support for your children, our school and the environment.

The Willowbank Enviro Team

