



MEDIA RELEASE **8th February 2010**

Marrickville Kids become Big Waste Watchers

Waste Watchers, the leading face to face environmental education program in NSW will return again this year to teach local school students about how to respect and care for their environment. A total of 10 local schools will be taught over the period of 24 days.

Waste Watchers is an initiative of Keep Australia Beautiful NSW, and is hosted by Marrickville Council as part of their overall strategy to increase environmental awareness in local students.

“This long term participation in the Waste Watchers education program not only represents a responsible approach to environmental management by Marrickville Council but also a dedication to passing on their knowledge and passion by teaching children about how to minimise their environmental footprint.” Peter McLean, CEO of Keep Australia Beautiful NSW said.

Today Waste Watchers visited St Pius School in Enmore for an interactive lesson in the ‘Wide World of Waste’ which focused specifically on waste management actions such as learning how to reduce and sort waste, as well as learning about correct bin usage, landfill, recycling and composting.

“Waste Watchers educates primary school children to ‘do the right thing’ by covering issues such as disposing of litter properly, reusing and recycling, water catchment protection and water conservation. The children take these vital messages home which then influence family’s perceptions concerning the environment and encourages them to implement environmental solutions – such as recycling, worm farming and composting - in the home,” Peter McLean said.

Yunos Hassib, franchise owner of Cartridge World in Sydney, believes their partnership with Waste Watchers is an important way for Cartridge World to give back to the local community.

“Cartridge World recognises the importance of supporting the local community in which we operate. We see Waste Watches as a great way for us to support the environmental education of the younger generations who should learn from an early age about the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling their waste.”

Waste Watchers educator, Peta Golla is extremely proud of the program which was developed by Keep Australia Beautiful especially for school children.

“The Waste Watchers lessons are very interactive with lots of games and quizzes to help the children learn about protecting their local environment. The kids start to understand the environmental challenges faced by our society but are empowered by the small yet significant steps that they can take to help keep Australia beautiful,” Peta Golla added.

For information on how to become involved in environment initiatives in your area, please contact Marrickville Council on 02 9335 2222 or visit www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au

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