

# **Kambrya Secondary College Sustainability update: Biodiversity module.**

In 2019 and T1 2020, we have been focussing on completing the Biodiversity module and working towards achieving our third star.

As part of the program, details including costs of electricity, gas, water, recycling, paper usage and waste disposal volumes have been collected and updated regularly online since 2016. The details are evaluated by the sustainability coordinator with the aim to reduce of approximately 10% from their overall score each year.

For the last two years, biodiversity audits have been conducted by the Y10 Environmental Science class. It includes how many logs, vertebras, non-vertebras, native trees and weeds are found in the school grounds. It follows the "Cool Australia" layout and the students need to present their findings as part of their CAT. Through conducting audits for both resources with our student environment team we identified areas we could focus on to further reduce our usage of these resources. This gave our college overall rating of between 75 - 83% (depending on student group) and provided a clear overview of areas that could be further improved.

The last Biodiversity assessment conducted in 2019 came out at around 80% showing that we have slowly improved in the last two years. This could be due a working bee and other planting done in 2019. Over the coming years the recommendations documented in the SEMP will be looked at and implemented with the hope further increases.

Kambrya College has started to work with Landcare in 2019. This includes planning and planting through our Darrabi program in 2020/21. This will help our overall biodiversity rating in the next biodiversity audit.

We are currently in the process of servicing our solar panels. They have been installed many years ago, however we are not sure of their efficiency. We are hoping by the end of the year to see if they need additional work. The Principal is also looking into getting more panels. To improve our overall biodiversity rating at our school we are going to advance and fully implement the Landcare partnership.

Every morning, two classes roam the school area in HG (as per roster) and pick up any litter they find. This improves the look of our school and educates students to avoid littering. We will continue our paper & battery recycling program and plan to add a writing material recycling program in T2/2020. Those are all new programs, which did not exist before we joined the Resourcesmart program. In 2019 we also adopted a Tasmanian Devil through Zoos Victoria. This, together with a fundraiser for bushfire affected animals in T2/20, will support wildlife outside of the school. All this programs that we have implemented at the school, through completing the core and waste modules, appear to be making a difference on a whole school

scale with a reduction in the school's waste to landfill since finalising the waste module. Once we have completed our biodiversity star, our next focus will be the Energy module.

So far, we have achieved a saving of \$ 31.02 per student and hopefully also improved the environmental awareness at Kambrya College.



Sustainability team at workshop at Nossal Secondary college. September 2019