

Media Release:

19.10.09

Waterwise Schools Receive Funding Grants

The 2008-09 NT Waterwise School Grants have been announced with four schools in central Australia receiving \$3000 each from the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS).

NRETAS Water Conservation Officer Tanya Howard said with the support of Power and Water Corporation, grants are offered to central Australian schools to help provide some practical water saving initiatives.

“Grants are awarded for a project that saves water, improves water efficiency or conserves the values of a waterway and must also link to a classroom project,” Ms Howard said.

Recipients of the 2008-09 Waterwise School Grants are:

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College – Traeger Campus

Funding for irrigation improvements at the school, linked to a middle school science project.

Ross Park Primary School

Creation of an arid zone garden that reduces lawn area and saves water, linked to an early primary students science group project.

Ti Tree School

“Turn off the tap” – funding to replace leaking and old taps and produce water saving posters, linked to a whole school Language and Culture project.

School of the Air

Funding to help reduce water use in the Visitor’s Centre, linked to project where students make a DVD and posters to be displayed in the Visitor’s Centre.

Ms Howard said an added benefit of the NT Waterwise School Grants Program has been the increase in students’ awareness of the importance of water conservation both at home and in the school community.

“Some student curriculum activities this year have included students participating in excursions to the Alice Springs Desert Park and Olive Pink Botanic Gardens to research native flora,” Ms Howard said.

“Students have also researched the water usage of different plants via experiments and the Internet, and used this knowledge to design a low water, native garden at the entranceway to the Traeger Campus buildings.”

The Ti Tree School water use posters will be on display at the Town Library for National Water Week, 18-24 October 2009.

For more information about the Grants Program go to www.nt.gov.au/waterwise or phone 8951 9209.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Tanya Howard on 8951 9209

A photo opportunity is available with students from OLSH Traeger Campus at the low water native garden. Contact Tanya Howard on 8951 9209 to arrange.

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