



Media Release
Thursday, 27 May 2010

Grant brings in the worms to Woodlupine Primary School

Woodlupine Primary School will further expand their sustainable schools program, thanks to a grant from Teachers Credit Union.

The school will use the \$4491 grant from the credit union to undertake projects to complement their vegetable garden including: establishing a worm farm to reduce the amount of food scraps going to landfill; adding new raised garden beds for every class; and purchasing chickens to farm their own eggs.

Bev Henderson, School Sustainable School Coordinator of Woodlupine Primary, said "Sustainable gardening practices will teach students practical ways to reduce waste being sent to landfills.

"We will use these new techniques to 'close the loop' by using food and garden waste to feed the worms and chickens and to make compost that can then be used on the garden. 'Home grown' vegetables and eggs will eventually be sold in the school's canteen which will promote the eating of healthy non-processed food," Ms Henderson said.

The gardens are part of the school's sustainability program, set up to instigate a culture of change in the community.

Steve James, CEO of Teachers Credit Union, said the Teachers Environment Fund was formed to assist public schools and TAFEs in their long-term sustainability.

"Through the Teachers Environment Fund, the credit union is helping teachers bring to life their environmental projects. We want to support projects which provide a resource for the school as well as a practical teaching example that embeds sustainability into children's thinking.

"The Teachers Credit Union grants can be used for any suitable environment project such as water and energy saving, composting and recycling, tree planting and even bird monitoring systems to promote biodiversity," Mr James said.

Woodlupine Primary School is one of nine educational facilities - and the only one in Eastern Perth - to receive a Teachers Environment Fund grant in the May 2010 round.

To date the Teachers Environment Fund has distributed over \$110,000 to 34 schools and TAFEs across NSW, ACT, NT and WA.

Find out more about Teachers Credit Union at www.teacherscreditunion.com.au

Photo opportunities available upon request.

Ends

About Teachers Credit Union

Teachers Credit Union is one of the largest credit unions in Australia with more than 155,000 members, assets of \$2.9 billion and the highest member retention rate of any Australian credit union.

The Teachers Environment Fund is a Teachers Credit Union initiative to assist public schools and TAFEs in their long-term sustainability. Applications for the next round of funding open in August.

For further enquiries on how to become a member or to apply for a grant, please visit the website on www.teacherscreditunion.com.au

Media Contact: Abby Hempfling, Cox Inall Communications
T: (02) 8204 3877 F: (02) 9211 5747