



SOUTHCOAST
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INC.

Media Release

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Little green thumbs unite

Castletown Primary School students achieved their mission to plant over 4,000 trees in the Lake Warden Recovery Catchment last week to mark National Tree Day.

The major tree planting exercise at the Department of Environment and Conservation's (DEC) Manners block on Lakes Road saw local species including banksias and eucalypts planted over four hectares to stabilise the soil and reduce the amount of water ending up in the Lake Warden wetlands.

Not at all overwhelmed by the prospect of planting so many trees, school principal Pauline Grewar said it gave the children a chance to appreciate nature while giving teachers an ideal opportunity to combine practical hands-on experience with environmental science.

"Tree planting is vital for the environment as it encourages native animals and birds back to the area. The exercise gives the children plenty to talk and write about back in the classroom," she said.

All 450 students at the school with the exception of the kindergarten children were involved, Mrs Grewar explained, and older children buddied up with the little ones to get the job done.

South Coast NRM biodiversity officer Robyn Cail said it was fantastic to see the entire school come out in support of an important environmental project.

"The kids are so receptive to the landcare message and can see what difference they can make to the environment with a little effort," Ms Cail said.

The trees were planted over the course of the week with assistance from Esperance Regional Forum, DEC and South Coast NRM staff.

Castletown Primary has previously been involved in Arbour Day and plans to continue its support of National Tree Day in future.

ENDS

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