

All Hallows' School – Small Steps to Save the Planet

All Hallows' School in Brisbane has continued its focus on ecology in 2018 with many initiatives coordinated by the Eco-Justice Group which comes under the umbrella of the Mercy Action program.

To celebrate Earth Day, All Hallows' held its very own 'Earth Week'. Students took the opportunity to educate the community on the issue of plastic use and practical methods to cut down plastic use in the wider school community. The week culminated in 'Plastic Free Friday' in which students reduced or eliminated plastics from their lunch boxes. The Eco-Justice Group also held a 'Plastic Container Booth'. The girls collected the Lost Property plastic containers to reunite students with their lunch boxes and water bottles. They were trying to ensure the plastic containers would have a second life.

Since then, the group has been working with the tuckshop to investigate ways of reducing plastic waste and they are looking into replacing the single use straws as well as plastic cutlery with bamboo utensils.

During Earth Week, the group also highlighted the student-led recycling program. Staff, students, families and friends have been invited to drop off Nespresso coffee pods, batteries, old mobile phones, and eye glasses at our permanent recycling booth and the Eco-Justice Group ensure they will be recycled. Our weekly coffee cart has also revised its program and will give a 50cent discount to customers who provide their own coffee cups. Blue All Hallows' coffee cups are also available for those who want to save the planet from an oversupply of disposable cups.

The girls are also collecting second-hand clothing for a rummage sale later in the year, to focus on clothing sustainability and reuse.

Ecology and sustainability is a mainstay at All Hallows' and our Earth Week activities were designed to remind the community of our responsibilities to each other and our planet.



Kate Crowley, Julia Dodds, Alexandra Leyshon and Lucy Cichero showing off their plastic containers.

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Claire Easton,

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