

Education News

2025 - Term 3



What's on this term?

Welcome to our education newsletter! It's great to see entries starting to come in for the National Water Week poster competition.

We hope you've found the new curriculum-aligned teaching resources helpful this year. With much of our region still affected by drought, the message to save every drop is more important than ever!

Get in touch with us at education@wannonwater.com.au or call us on **1300 926 666**.

National Water Week poster competition open until 12 Sep

The National Water Week poster competition is now open for 2025. All kindergarten and primary school students up to year 6 are eligible to enter.

We absolutely love seeing all the entries coming in and there are always plenty of hands up in the office to help with judging. Once we've whittled down our shortlist, they go to Melbourne for judging against entries from across Victoria.



What makes a winning entry? A little bit of artistic talent, and a lot of how well students convey the theme. And this year's theme?

Water Heroes: Save Every Drop.

Please encourage your students to think about the ways they can be their own water hero – whether that's at school or at home.

As always, there are great prizes up for grabs for the winning entries, and a larger school prize for lucky dip winners to create their own sustainability project.

We received 222 entries in 2024. Check out the winners and find out more on how to enter the competition on our [website](#).

The 2025 competition closes on 12 September, with the winners announced during National Water Week in October. Good luck!

Become a SWEP school

Are you signed up to the [School Water Efficiency Program \(SWEP\)](#) yet?

We now have 30 SWEP schools across South West Victoria using a data logger to track how much water they're using.

The logger transmits a daily file which can be accessed through an interactive website. It can also automatically alert facility managers when unusually high water usage is detected.

Leaking pipes, taps and toilets can go undetected in schools for quite some time. Early detection can save schools thousands of dollars.

The program also includes powerful learning tools for students. The real-time data can give students insights and knowledge, empowering them to take simple, tangible actions to improve sustainability within their own lives, schools and communities.

And bonus – all educational materials have strong links to the Victorian and Australian curriculum.

For more information or to sign up to the program, please get in touch with our Education Team.

ResourceSmart School Awards update

Congratulations to Benson Steere, who was a finalist in the Teacher of the Year Award at the recent 2025 ResourceSmart Schools Awards.

A teacher at St Patrick's School in Port Fairy, Mr Steere has led the school to attain five-star sustainability certification through the ResourceSmart Schools program.

Certification requires significant demonstration of leadership in the areas of biodiversity, energy, water and waste. Congratulations to Mr Steere and St Pat's!

ResourceSmart Schools is a Victorian Government Program that provides practical support to help schools reduce resource use, cut costs and integrate sustainability into curriculum.

For more information and to register your interest in the program, visit the Sustainability Victoria [website](#).

National Science Week

It's been a busy start to the term for us, with the team heading out to various events.

Thanks to everyone who dropped in to say hi to us at Sheepvention last week.

It's National Science Week this week and we're heading to Terang College for the Neil Porter Legacy's Maths & Science @ Work Day on Friday 15 August.

If you have an event coming up that we could support with science or water education, please contact us to see how we might be able to help.



New water filter kits a big hit

Our new water filter kits have proven to be a big hit with students!

Selecting from a range of filter materials, students can experiment to see which combination works best to clean raw water. As our pilot group of year 4 students from the Hamilton and Alexandria College discovered, more is not always better.

These kits are available for all schools in the Wannon Water service area to borrow free of charge. They can be used as an activity to clean water or to test the chlorine level in tap or pool water.

Both activities come with instructions and are demonstrated in full by our Coordinator Eastern Treatment Operations Ben Marsden in videos on our website.

The activity kits are best suited to Years 4-8 as part of science curriculum.

You can find more information or submit a booking request via our [website](#).

World Environment Day water treatment plant tour

In Term 2 we ran three tours at the Hamilton Water Treatment Plant to celebrate World Environment Day.

We're constantly impressed with the questions from the young people taking part in these tours. They were particularly fascinated by the very dark colour of the raw water coming out of our Grampians headworks. This is still impacted by ash from the summer bushfires.

Tours are a great springboard to so many conversations including sustainability, microbiology, engineering, chemistry and pathways to employment.

Keep an eye out on our socials or in the Term 4 newsletter for the next round of tour dates.

