

# WEST GREENWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## WAGING A WAR ON WASTE!

At West Greenwood Primary School, the P&C, canteen supervisor and canteen committee have all been a driving force behind some significant improvements to the canteen menu, including a determined effort to reduce waste in the canteen.

P&C President, Crystal Collins-Sio, says that along with the support of their Waste Wise Committee, they wanted to reduce the amount of plastic used. They specifically focussed on the lunch packs that are served in single-use plastic containers (like the ones you get sushi in) and polystyrene cups used for items such as yoghurt pops.

So they went shopping! They purchased reusable cups, cutlery and containers to replace the disposable items. The reusable cups are a big hit with the students as they are a variety of colours, and it's always cute when students ask for a specific colour cup. They really love their rainbows in Possum's Pantry.

All the containers are resealable so students can have a nibble of their snack pack or lunch then close the container without worrying about creepy crawlies or flying bugs getting in their food. There is a special tub just outside the canteen in which students put their reusable items. These are washed after every use, ready for the next day.

Crystal says it has been an extraordinary team effort from the entire school community with their Canteen Supervisor, Heidi Milne (aka Mrs Possum), adding her enthusiasm and passion for her work into the preparation and presentation of every menu item. The students know they are generating less waste and doing something positive for the environment. They are always quick to return the reusable items if they find any around the school. Parents are incredibly supportive, and they are all encouraged by the fact that they are one big team that is doing their best to waste less and reuse/recycle more.

