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Welcome to the TLfS E-Newsletter June edition. This is our first issue and includes information about the roll out and delivery of the TLfS Program in schools and communities across Victoria.

The format of future newsletter will remain the same, so that readers will know what to expect each quarter. We are keen to hear success stories from teachers and facilitators implementing the TLfS program in order to share these experiences in future publications. We are also keen to hear from anyone who has had difficulties implementing the TLfS program. From this we will learn and try to work out the best solutions for you.

In some cases, the formatting and embedded hyperlinks within this E-Newsletter can be distorted when viewed via a web browser – if this affects you, a Word version with a bookmarked contents list is attached to this email. You can also download a copy of this and future E-Newsletters by visiting the Latest News section of the TLfS website.

We hope you enjoy our first edition!

**Jane Stewart & Pat Armstrong**

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## **TLfS News & Upcoming Workshops:**

### **Launch of the TLfS website**

#### **[www.leadersforsustainability.com](http://www.leadersforsustainability.com)**

The new Tomorrow's Leaders for Sustainability website is now up on the internet. It contains a wide range of information under the following headings:

- Latest news
- Who we are
- Programs
- Supporters
- Shop
- Members

The aim of the website is to give newcomers to the TLfS program an overview of its content and the strategies behind its roll out and delivery within the community. At this early stage, most of the information relates to Victoria, but plans are underway to expand the TLfS Program to other states in the near future. The website will house this national information when appropriate.

The other aim of the website is to keep participating students, teachers, community educators and supporters up to date with all developments in the implementation of the TLfS program. We also plan to give a wide range of information to help with Project ideas and Leadership activities. All those participating in the TLfS program are encouraged to register as a Member on the TLfS website. This will give them access to the wealth of information under the following headings:

- Student materials
- Teaching materials
- Administrative materials
- Marketing materials

Please note that this is the first stage of the TLfS website and that further developments will occur in the months to follow. We are keen to hear from anyone with ideas in how to extend the website and to give those using it the information they need to maximise the success of the TLfS program in their schools and communities.

Please send any website comments or ideas to [info@leadersforsustainability.com](mailto:info@leadersforsustainability.com)

### **Upcoming Workshops**

Pat Armstrong & Jane Stewart will deliver another round of TLfS Workshops for educators and community facilitators interested in implementing the TLfS program in their schools and communities. The workshops are delivered in a 2-day format with participants required to attend both workshops to be fully accredited to deliver the TLfS program. Dates are as follows:

Part 1:	Wed 27th May 2009	8.45am – 4.00pm
Part 2:	Wed 22nd July 2009	8.45am – 4.00pm

Venue: Victorian Association of Environmental Education  
Statewide Resources Centre, Level 2, 150 Palmerston Street  
Carlton.

For more information please go to the [TLfS website](#).

## **Becoming a TLfS Member**

Now that the TLfS website is up and running we are keen for participating teachers and their students to become Members of the program. To do this, they can either fill in the form at the bottom of the [Members page](#) or write to [info@leadersforsustainability.com](mailto:info@leadersforsustainability.com).

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## **Case Studies:**

This section of the E-Newsletter will showcase some of the activities associated with the TLfS program. It will also describe some of the different ways schools are implementing the TLfS program across different year levels and subject areas. The objective is to not only stimulate ideas for the TLfS Educational, Project and Leadership activities, but to also help teachers understand how they might implement the TLfS program within their particular school settings.

### **Princes Hill Secondary College (PHSC)**

<b>Students</b>	Years 7 – 10
<b>Selection</b>	Self-selected as part of school elective program
<b>Length</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Term
<b>When</b>	Combined 2 x 50 minute lessons every 3 weeks
<b>Where</b>	Various rooms and computer lab
<b>CSI Challenge</b>	Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary
<b>Facilitators</b>	Pat Armstrong & Jane Stewart
<b>Projects</b>	A range of different projects were completed as listed below

#### **Research / Working Model**

- *Understanding hydro electricity* – Working model
- *Green Roof Project* – Working model

#### **Research / Communication**

- *Greenhouse for Kids* - DVD made for kids about the impact of greenhouse
- *Sustainability E-Newsletter* – Communication for school electronic bulletin
- *Sustainability Survey* – Survey to research Year 7's knowledge of sustainability initiatives at school
- *Introducing energy efficient light globes into the community* – Pamphlet

**Comments:** The TLfS Program was run as a pilot at PHSC in the early stages of its development. Students, parent and teachers were all very pleased with the results and this culminated in a graduation ceremony where the students showcased their projects. When asked about his overall impression of the TLfS program the Principal stated "there is no doubt in my mind that this group of students has a better understanding of what community leadership entails. They exhibited effective teamwork skills, personal responsibility, a high degree of organisation, a deep appreciation of the complexity of environmental issues, respect for other perspectives, skills and confidence in public speaking."



Caption: Wurundjeri elder, Joy Murphy (far left), Pat Armstrong (second from left), Principal John Stone (far right) and graduates of the TLfS program.

### **Mill Park Heights Primary School**

<b>Students</b>	Years 3 – 6
<b>Selection</b>	Student Representative Committee
<b>Length</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Term
<b>When</b>	50 minute student workshops
<b>Where</b>	Junior assembly area
<b>Facilitators</b>	Pat Armstrong & Jane Stewart
<b>Project</b>	Combined Whole of School Project – “Sustainability in Art”

**Comments:** The TLfS Program was run as a pilot at Mill Park PS as part of the development of the primary school version of the program. Its main objective was to see how the secondary material could be adapted to suit younger children. The biggest change was that instead of carrying out projects in small groups of 2-4 students, this project was carried out as a whole of school activity. As a result of this pilot program, a new integrated primary program was developed and is now in use in primary schools. With the guidance of their teachers the students carried out the following activities:

- Consulted with classmates to decide on top 5 ideas (within a budget of \$500)
- Decided upon the construction of 3 environmental bollards
- Presented proposal to School Council to gain approval
- Organised placement of bollards with the help of school groundsman
- Set up a competition where students created designs – “Totem Pole Competition”
- Presented winners of the competition at a school assembly
- Purchased paint and requested materials from school community
- Painted environmental bollards
- Celebrated achievement with Fish and Chip lunch for all SRC participants



Caption: Students proudly display the school's new environmental bollards

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## Research, Reports and Resources:

### **SETS (Schools Environmental Tracking System)**

SETS is an invaluable web-based tracking system for schools to record and track over time their electricity, gas, water and paper use, plus waste generation. Using the site, it is easy to enter data and to identify school resource savings, losses and trends. Annual subscription required.

For more information, go to: <http://www.schoolenergysavings.com.au/sets.php>)

### **University of Melbourne's Think.Act.Green. project**

The University of Melbourne has a Think.Act.Green team who "will partner with small student-led teams from 5 secondary schools. Think.Act.Green will provide students with the support and resources to develop a proposal outlining the means by which their school can become more environmentally sustainable." Oakleigh South College, one of our TLfS schools, is also working with the Think.Act.Green team. TLfS and Think.Act.Green seem to be quite complementary.

For more information, go to: <http://www.unimelbsife.org.au/greenschools.html>

### **Facing the Future**

Facing the Future is a USA based organisation that provides useful educational resources on sustainability.

For more information, go to: [www.facingthefuture.org](http://www.facingthefuture.org)

### **Sustainability and VELS**

If you are looking at how you can link sustainability to your VELS curriculum in Years P-10, have a look at the article on the VCAA website: Sustainability Perspectives in the VELS –

(<http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/support/crosscurricular/sustainability.html>). This article gives some of the background to education for sustainability (EFS), lists some of the key concepts, principles and issues in EFS and then shows two tables (for Levels 4 and 5) which "give examples of standards across the domains that support, and demonstrate the multidisciplinary nature of, sustainability education."

## **National Education for Sustainability Statements**

These are two very important documents that you will find very useful in your planning for education for sustainability. Both these documents are available on the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts website. They can be either ordered in hard copy or downloaded in pdf format from the following websites:

### **Educating for a Sustainable Future – A National Environmental Education Statement for Australian Schools**

(<http://www.environment.gov.au/education/publications/pubs/sustainable-future.pdf>)

### **Living Sustainably: the Australian Government's National Action Plan for Education for Sustainability**

(<http://www.environment.gov.au/education/publications/pubs/national-action-plan.pdf>)

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## **About TLfS**

Please forward comments, feedback, subscription requests or news for our next edition to [info@leadersforsustainability.com](mailto:info@leadersforsustainability.com).

### **TLfS Contact Details**

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### **Unsubscribe**

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### **About Us**

Tomorrow's Leaders for Sustainability (TLfS) is a new initiative that helps young people understand and appreciate the key principles and issues of sustainability while gaining the knowledge and skills to become leaders in their chosen career. The program's training in sustainability leadership is based on a holistic and interactive approach to learning that respects the student's prior experience, knowledge and skills. The objective is help young people to understand the world around them as well as helping them to develop the ability to think for themselves, communicate their thoughts and feelings, act on their own beliefs and help others act in an ethical and socially responsible way.

We have so far trained over 50 teachers and educators in the approach of the TLfS program which is now being conducted in many schools in both urban and rural settings.