

## 'i sea, i care' Ambassadors in action...

On a cold day in June, Ambassadors from 21 schools took part in the Catchment workshop. We began at Banyan Reserve in Carrum Downs, with a Melbourne Water crew showing us what was caught in the litter traps, and then investigating the bugs and water quality of the wetlands that clean the storm water.

Rubbish and pollution can flow through our catchments via the drains, creeks and rivers before entering our bays. The results can be devastating for our marine life.

In the afternoon, the Ambassadors saw for themselves the ocean connection with inland suburbs as we followed Mordialloc Creek down to the beach.

They conducted a litter survey along the footpath as we walked to see what types of rubbish were found. Cigarette butts and plastics topped the list. More people are living in the Catchment each year and we can all do our bit to protect the future of our marine environment.



Many thanks to Mitch Peters and the crew at Melbourne Water.

## King tides in Warringine Park

Warringine Park is an amazing local reserve down here in Hastings, with a variety of coastal habitats including mangroves, salt marshes and estuarine wetlands. They are home to a huge range of flora and fauna species such as swamp skinks, rakali (native water rats), tawny frogmouths, and swamp harriers that make their nests in the salt bush plants.

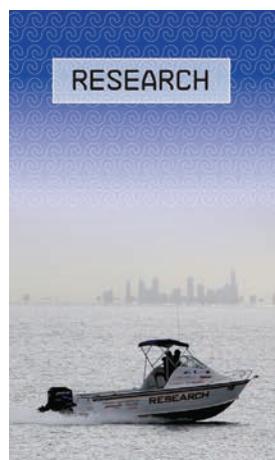
During exceptionally high tides, called King tides, which happen several times a year, the park is completely flooded. In these photos you can see the

water reaches right up to the boardwalk and submerges the path. It was quite an experience to see this phenomenon first hand last month.



# i sea i care

RESEARCH



EDUCATION



LEADERSHIP

