

## CASEY AMBASSADORS SET SAIL FOR 2017

What a great start the *'i sea, i care'* Ambassadors from twelve schools in the Casey region had this year. Aboard the Wildlife Coast Cruises 'Kasey Lee' on a perfect day to see the seals in Western Port, one Ambassador summed it up simply as... "This is so cool!!" (Thanks, Hunter from Rangebank Primary School).



With smiles all round, even from the first-time sailors, the Casey Ambassadors began to feel what it means to be chosen to be an Ambassador. Many photos were

taken and questions asked about the seals; how long do they live, how big do they grow, what are their biggest threats and what can we do? Mika from Wildlife Coast Cruises praised the young Ambassadors for their very pertinent and thoughtful questions.

The trip on the Kasey Lee is just the start for the Casey Ambassadors. Next year they will be expanding their skills and

knowledge through workshops in such things as peer teaching and coastal management. All of this is part of the Dolphin Research Institute's commitment to our dolphins and our bays. And these young Ambassadors are the future of our dolphins and our bays.

Thanks as always to the wonderful Mika, John, Captain Brett and all the crew on the Kasey Lee. Also it was great to have Mandy Munro

and Shantelle Carreras from the City of Casey aboard as well; they saw first-hand how enthusiastic these brand new Ambassadors are – and what a force they can be in the future. Thanks also to the teachers and support people who get the whole thing happening for these young, and so terribly keen, future marine Ambassadors.

## AMBASSADORS SHINE AT ASSEMBLIES

It's always great to visit some of my *'i sea, i care'* schools and speak at their assemblies about the amazing work they do in their school community.

This term, I've had the pleasure of visiting Cranbourne Park and Pearcedale Primary Schools to hear about the wonderful fundraising efforts and also their work towards a more sustainable school.

At both schools we had the current Ambassadors talking about their year

just finishing and the highlights. Then the new Ambassadors came up to introduce themselves and at Pearcedale I was honoured to be able to present them with their certificates (opposite).

Both schools have a long connection with the program and are strong environmental champions in the community.

Big thank you to both Sue Jones and Jeff Mead for your wonderful work and friendship.



This summer, let's all try to reduce our plastic footprint by saying no to single-use plastics such as straws, water bottles, balloons and plastic bags!

