

“WE NEED TO RESPECT THE OCEANS AND TAKE CARE OF THEM AS THOUGH OUR LIVES DEPENDED ON IT. BECAUSE THEY DO”.

Ambassadors from the Kingston region spent time in Term Two studying catchments and their role in environmental health. The students had an amazing time at the workshop identifying macro invertebrates, and testing water quality in the Dandenong wetlands to gain a deeper understanding about the incredible importance of freshwater environments. The wonderful crew from Melbourne Water also gave up their time to explain the issues surrounding urban drains, and demonstrated how a litter trap works.

Then the Ambassadors headed to Mordialloc Beach where they participated in a street cleanup, as well as a beach and river bank litter survey. These activities are vital to help students make connections between stormwater drains and aquatic environments, and how litter can travel all the way from Dandenong to Mordialloc beach! (The collected litter will be sorted and submitted to the Tangaroa Blue Australian Marine Debris database).



Many thanks to Mitch Peters and the crew from Melbourne Water, and Emily Boucher at the City of Kingston.

SYLVIA EARLE



American oceanographer, explorer, researcher and marine biologist. National Geographic explorer-in-residence since 1998.



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TALK TO A DRI RESEARCHER ON A CLIFF OR IN A WHALE!

The family-friendly 'Island Whale Festival' is on again! Join us at Phillip Island on Friday July 6 to Sunday 8 (this is the middle weekend of the school holidays). Learn about whales, their migration routes and a whole lot more.

- Our amazing inflatable whale will be at the marquee at the Cowes Cultural Centre every day – with sessions at 1pm, 2:30pm and 4pm. Book for one of the FREE 45 minute sessions, and climb into a whale!
- Or try and spot a real whale on Saturday and Sunday from one of the Island's lookouts at Cape Woolamai (9:30am) and Pyramid Rock (11:30am). DRI's researchers will be there to inform and inspire you - and tell the difference between a spouting whale and a wave.



LOOK OUT FOR DRI'S VERY OWN 'BOTTLES THE DOLPHIN' AT THE FESTIVAL! PROGRAM & BOOKINGS www.islandwhales.com.au