

## ONE BLOWHOLE OR TWO?

Dolphins and whales, being mammals, need to breathe air just like we do. Living in water obviously creates a challenge as they need to come to the surface to do this. Consequently the blowhole(s) are located on the top of the head, behind the skull. These blowholes are akin to our nostrils.

In the ancestor of all modern whales and dolphins, they were located in the same place, on the face. This ancestor lived around 50 million years ago and was a small, deer-like animal that lived on land. As evolutionary changes occurred, the nostrils gradually migrated to the top of the head to allow the animals to become completely amphibious.

But why do some species only have one blowhole when we have two nostrils? The answer lies in the communication used by each species. In whales like humpbacks, blue and southern rights, there are still two blowholes. These whales are called baleen whales as they have baleen plates in their mouth instead of teeth.

For all the dolphins and toothed whales such as sperm whales, however, there is only one blowhole - the other one has evolved into the sonar centre that these animals use to communicate, navigate and also hunt! These sounds travel through the water as pressure waves and bounce back off schools of fish, boats and reefs.

Look out for our two dolphin species, the bottlenose and common, this summer and marvel at their amazing history.



Above: common dolphin (Port Phillip) Below: humpback whale calf (Bass Strait) DRI images



## THE FUTURE IS HERE - AND IT'S GREEN!

Another amazing year was celebrated in the sustainability garden at St Louis de Montfort's Primary School. Almost 130 Ambassadors, parents, teachers, aides and principals came to finish the year with some brilliant reflections by the students as they completed their Ambassador roles and handed over the baton to next year's crew.

Poems were definitely the order of the night, with some funny, others deep and thoughtful and all meaningful. There was a plethora of awards to hand out and plenty of happy, smiling faces enjoying the atmosphere.

Congratulations to all Ambassadors for an amazing year of hard work and real achievements in your school communities.



Mandy Robertson, DRI's Education Director



Ambassador Winners - Jaylyn Clarke-Kamp and Scarlet Broad (Chelsea)

Ambassador Highly Commended - Ethan Boldizs and Zoi Spiliopoulou (Clayton South)

School Winner - Our Lady of Assumption

School Highly Commended - Moorabbin

Fundraisers - Clayton South

Outstanding Contribution - Julie Doyle, Our Lady of Assumption

Parent of the Year - Ruth Letch (Patterson Lakes), Allison Pickett and Narelle Partridge (Cheltenham East) and Heidi Williams (Aspendale).

Commended - Chloe Davis (St Louis), Soma Harrison-Comey (Patterson Lakes) and Keisha Interrigi (Cheltenham East)



Many thanks to Julie Wynne from St Louis, Serena Gillott from City of Kingston and Lisa from Bistro 97 for your fantastic catering again.