Learning to Protect our Beautiful Bay

Over the past year, 40 young leaders from ten local schools have become ‘i sea, i care’ ambassadors thanks to the City of Kingston’s support. The goal is improve the way we live around our bay. Part of the program teaches ambassadors about the incredible life that lives in their back yard and how our actions on land threaten it.

The other part is to train them as peer teachers and public speakers so that they can share their experiences.

Their most recent workshop took them to see and smell, first hand, how the litter and pollution from their community gets into the bay.

With the help of Melbourne Water’s maintenance crew, they witnessed the emptying of a stormwater pollution trap.

It was immediately obvious to them that much of the putrid contents originated as litter where they live.

The students learnt that, if it weren’t for these traps, most of this rubbish would end up in our beautiful bay, home to many of Victoria’s living Marine Treasures.

We then traced our way down Mordialloc Creek where we stopped to investigate a floating pollution trap.

Here we were joined by the Mayor, Councillor John Ronke, who helped to reinforce the importance of keeping our catchments healthy. Councillor Ronke was presented with an educational DVD that has been developed for this project, titled “Learning to Protect our Beautiful Bay”. (It can be viewed at: http://youtu.be/d3h7tB8SFCk)

We then followed the creek all the way to the bay to complete the journey.

Ambassadors will now return to their schools and share their experience.

Thank you to Councillor Ronke and Renae Crosthwaite at City of Kingston, and Kaine Alexander and his crew at Melbourne Water for making this day possible.

‘i sea, i care’ - is a unique, statewide, marine leadership program in schools across Victoria - spreading the message that Victoria’s Marine Treasures are “too precious to lose”

Will You Walk for Western Port?

Walk the 2km or 6 km track along Hastings foreshore, or just come along and support DRI. Great prizes to be won! Phone 1300 130 949 to register.

Saturday, September 8, 11am onwards