

Environment Committee Report for 2015

Another huge year saw some old projects finally completed, many new jobs completed and a list of projects planned for the coming year. The Highlight was again was the huge working bee held in June.

The first job completed this year was the building of a new school entrance on Abbott Rd, a new wall on Harbord Rd (near the bus stop) and a brick wall entrance at the teachers car park. The new entrance is a huge improvement on the ugly wire gate that was there before. At the working bee in June this job was finished off with some shrub planting behind the wall, which is growing well.

In January a great group of dad's got together and installed a rolled concrete edge to the driveway leading up to the TAS block at the bus shelter. No longer will bark we washed all over the driveway when we have big rainfall. This was a huge job given proper footing had to be dug and compacted before the concrete could be poured.

Also in January five mature trees were planted alongside the canteen wall/seat, which will eventually provide shade to students sitting on this seat.

After raising the height of the dividing walls between the cubicles in the boys toilets last year, it was noticed that boys could still look over the toilet doors. During the Easter holidays all the toilet doors were replaced with higher models which included new locks.

The annual working bee was held on Sunday 14th of June. A huge effort was put in by about 68 parents & students who completed a large list of projects including:

- Installation of 3 sets of speed humps on driveways & a Bollard outside the uniform shop
- Extensive planting of more than 100 plants in the garden in front of the bus shelter
- Planted a new garden behind the new school entrance
- Lopping of low hanging trees all around the school
- Replaced one of the large trees planted in January that was damaged in the April storms
- Installed two new barriers to protect the vege gardens
- Tidying up of the bush surrounding the teachers carpark
- Weeding & removing of rubbish all along the Harbord Rd & Headland Rd boundaries and spreading of large piles of mulch
- Weeding & removing of rubbish in the gardens around the TAS block and the school hall
- Installed a new wooden border around the garden between the bus shelter & the TAS block
- Installed a wooden walkway alongside the driveway leading up to the TAS block
- Repaired some of the bitumen along the edge of the canteen wall
- Replaced a broken panel of fencing along Harbord Rd
- Painted seats in the soft fall area
- Gernied many dirty walls around the school
- Used a concrete grinder on some of the trip hazards on paths around the school

The day finished up with a great BBQ and a few cold drinks, which also catered for about 80 students & staff who were holding the last rehearsal for the school musical.

More working bees are planned for next year.

An ongoing task that continued this year was the maintenance & bush regeneration of the "Sandstone Heath" bushland, on the northern boundary of the top field, by the team from "Northside Enterprise" which employs people with a disability. This job started in 2012 and has seen a great improvement of this area. The school has committed to funding this program again in 2015.

The most recent jobs completed were the repair of some capping on several of the Bessar block walls, installation of 8 round concrete tree surrounds to protect the new trees that were planted beside the footpath leading up to the main school entrance and the installation of a new electronic sign board on Harbord Rd, which was funded by the P&C.

Some jobs that were planned and approved but did not get completed due to lack of time and people available to arrange them are:

- Installation of irrigation systems around the school
- Install, air conditioners in computer rooms
- Plant around school fence perimeter
- Concrete a strip on the northern end of the year 12 COLA

- Two new concrete slabs with tables/seats on the top field
- Four new concrete slabs with seats on the hill above the basketball courts
- The construction of a new seat in the quad around the garden that had trees removed this year

If anyone has the skills needed to complete any of the above tasks, the P&C would love to hear from you.

David Nord
25th November 2015

Before



AFTER

