



Media Release

Embargoed to Monday, 8 November 2010

For immediate release

Preschoolers join water saving effort

Carey Bay preschoolers have joined the effort to save water, by launching their first rainwater tank at the Laycock Street community-based preschool.

The 3000 litre rainwater tank will be used to irrigate the pre-school's vegetable and herb garden, and will allow the pre-schoolers to enjoy 'water play' during the hotter months, without wasting precious drinking water.

Hunter Water funded the project under its Community Funding Program, which supports community-based groups to address local environmental and water issues, and protect and enhance the natural environment.

Hunter Water's General Manager System, Strategy and Sustainability, Peter Dennis, commended Carey Bay Preschool's initiative for teaching sustainable behaviour in the earliest years.

"Children are the future of our region, and show a lot of enthusiasm for caring for our environment by living sustainably. Teaching water efficiency in preschool is a great way to cultivate the right values and behaviours in our kids," Mr Dennis said.

Students at the pre-school, run by the Macquarie Preschools Cooperative, will learn about weather patterns and rainfall, as well as saving drinking water and using it responsibly by capturing rain water for use in gardens.

Mr Dennis said, "This is another example of the community partnerships established through our grants helping to raise awareness of topics important to the community, from water efficiency, to community sporting events or caring for the environment."

This year, 26 community and corporate groups shared in over \$250,000 through Hunter Water's Community Funding Program.

Under the Community Funding Program, Hunter Water's Community Grants provide localised funding to community organisations in key areas of water conservation, sustainability, environmental and social outcome, giving direct benefit to the community.

More information: Elisha Yorke, Hunter Water on 02 4979 9524 or 0427 547 498

-ENDS-