



# STEM LAB NEWS

Term 1 7th edition



## Down in the garden....

After the recent rain and humidity the student garden is growing well. We have harvested some healthy pumpkins already and can see the corn starting to pop up.

Thank you to Hollie, Aidan and all of the morning volunteers for always coming to check on and water the garden and feed the fish and crayfish.



The older students have been great in helping to prepare for each Wednesday's garden club activity and lead the younger students in their jobs. I have had to stagger the lower grades participation due to the number of enthusiastic 'little helpers' who want to be part of the club.



Our scarecrow's name will be revealed soon!

This term we have planted corn, strawberries and capsicum and have watched the sweet potato, turmeric and pumpkins come through again.

Thanks to Mr Schultz and Vicki our school day cleaner for their help in preparing the cut off wheelie bins to fill with soil to create smaller, easier to manage gardens. They also prevent the new plants getting trampled by eager gardeners.

New additions this term have been the composting bins using the top half of old wheelie bins. They are coming along really

well. Each week the senior students check to see if more shredded paper or straw is needed to keep them healthy.

The unused newspapers ordered as part of an educational program are being used to cover areas to prevent weed growth and prepare new areas to plant out. The student are working on a small space just outside the SEP.

### Plans for Term 2 and 3

We are planning on expanding the student garden to include the space just behind the bin storage area. We'd like to get a little shed on a concrete slab to store the gardening equipment in as it will require lots of work.

If you would like to help with this project or have some knowledge to share, please let me know in Term 2 as I will need help with planning organising, and doing the earth works for the larger space.

