St Martin de Porres School is committed to a whole-school approach to environmental education, of which waste minimisation and litter reduction plays a vital role. As Stewards of the Earth and in the Dominican Tradition, we are called by God to establish and maintain sustainable practices.

Recently, the school community collected our rubbish for ONE day and came together to conduct a waste audit. We were all very shocked and concerned by the amount of rubbish we produced.

**LOOK AT THE AMOUNT OF WASTE WE COLLECTED IN JUST ONE DAY!**

It was obvious to all that we needed to make some changes and a school **ACTION PLAN** has been developed.

**TERM 1:**
- The Marion Council Waste Management Education Officer conducted information sessions with both students and staff.
- Each learning space and office now has a **yellow recycle box** to collect recyclable materials. (The Marion Council collects these items fortnightly as part of their waste management plan.)

**TERM 2:**
- The general rubbish bins in the schoolyard will have the green lids replaced with red lids to align with home waste management systems. These bins are currently emptied into the ‘skip bin’ in the car park that the school has to finance.
- New bins will be available to collect all 10c refundable containers.
- The school will begin a “**TAKE HOME WASTE**” initiative. This means all litter that students bring to school (except sticky items such as yoghurt containers and fruit peels) will be taken home.
- The School Waste Management Team will work with the Canteen Staff to look at reducing the litter produced by lunch orders.

**Future Initiatives:**
- Worm farms will be purchased to manage some of the waste produced.
- The school veggie garden will be extended.
- A “Litter Free Lunch Box” initiative will be established.

**WE ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT OUR WASTE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE.**
**YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED AND VALUED.**

Yours in Ecological Conversion,
The Staff and Students of St Martin de Porres School

**RESPECT, REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!**