

P & F Meeting Term 4 2020 - CSP Representative Report

Catholic School Parent (CSP) representatives from all schools in the Diocese have met via Zoom Conferencing twice this term, and this groups continues to be an excellent way for us to liaise and share knowledge and support the work of the P & Fs.

The group continues to look at ways to encourage sustainability in our schools, and the CSO was kind enough to offer each school a \$300 grant to go towards an initiative that would help this. We knew from past waste audits that a large amount of single use soft plastic was going into our landfill bins, so Mr Bateman approved the purchase of a designated soft plastic recycling bin that now sits outside the door to the playground.

With promotion and signage, the students are learning what items can be placed in this bin, and despite it's large size and it only being in place since the start of Term 4, it's been filled to the brim already. A very recent waste audit showed that at least 95% of the contents were suitable, which is a fantastic achievement! So many chip packets, zip lock bags, yoghurt pouches, plus plastic packaging from school administration.

Items not suitable included paper lunch order bags, foil wrap, food and rigid plastic items. With a little more encouragement and education we are sure the students will be using the bin correctly and doing their bit to 'close the gap' on soft plastic recycling.

By closing the gap, we mean that the plastic is taken to the RED cycle bins at either Coles or Woolies, to then be collected by REPLAS, a company that manufacture durable outdoor furniture for schools and community spaces, including here on the Northern Beaches

And it's also dramatically reduced the amount of landfill waste the school produces.

We'd like to thank the CSO and CSP Coordinators for making the grant possible, and the School for agreeing to purchasing the bin..



2 extra large full bags of soft plastic



Some of the no nos – but only a tiny proportion of what was in the bin!

