

P&C leading the way with Return and Earn

Scott Thompson, parent and P&C member initiated Nabiac Public School's participation in the Return and Earn program as a fundraiser for the school.

When setting up the system, Scott organised a recycling bin specifically for the program, with designated labelling, showing students what items were appropriate to recycle. The signage identifies specific items from the canteen, so students know exactly what can be recycled through the program. The bin has a special hole at the top, to encourage correct waste sorting and reduce contamination.



Scott empties the school collection bin weekly, and when he has enough containers, will take them to the closest collection point in Forster. Scott also volunteers his time to collect and recycle containers from community members.

Whilst contamination can still sometimes be an issue, students are onboard with the program. Scott and the school community are exploring ways to increase container collections by students.

The program has had a great impact so far - recycling over 12,000 containers! In doing this, the school has saved 720kgs of waste going to landfill and helped avoid 1444 kgs of carbon dioxide emissions. The P&C have raised over \$1,200, which goes back to support student learning.

Thanks to Scott's passion and enthusiasm, students and the whole Nabiac school community are benefitting from more recycling - a win for the school and the environment.

Congratulations to Scott Thompson who was awarded Highly Commended as a 2023 Return and Earn Program Leader, through the NSW Environmental Education Awards.