

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Ecolinc

Ecolinc has celebrated its second successful year with 3939 students participating in Ecolinc curriculum programs, and over 1300 adults and community members attending Open Days, meetings, professional development and other Centre bookings and tours.

Ecolinc participated successfully in Australia's Open Garden Scheme in 2006, attracting many visitors from across Melbourne. The Ecolinc wetland and terrestrial plantings looked magnificent illustrating the effectiveness of indigenous species, particularly the terrestrial species which do not require additional water once established. The Ecolinc wetland has provided habitat for a range of wildlife, including most recently, the Clamorous Reed-warbler *Acrocephalus stentoreus*, which has constructed a deep cup nest of reed-sheaths woven around reed-stems. The reed-warbler's outstanding song can be heard throughout the day at Ecolinc.

During 2006 Ecolinc has provided tours for a number of schools and architects planning new school facilities. We look forward to some of Ecolinc's award winning features featuring in new sustainable school designs.

Applications for the Term 1 2007 **mecu** Ecolinc scholarship are now open to primary and secondary schools across Victoria. The scholarship will contribute \$500 towards the cost incurred by a school in visiting Ecolinc. Eligible schools can apply by completing the online application form available from the Ecolinc or **mecu** websites.

www.ecolinc.vic.edu.au
mecu.com.au

For Term 1 2007, applications will be received up until 21 December 2006.

Thank you to all of Ecolinc's key supporters and sponsors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

New sponsors for 2006 include mecu and Southern Rural Water. Southern Rural Water will again sponsor National Water Week activities in October 2007.

RECENT SPONSORSHIP

Thank you to HRL Technology Pty Ltd for their very generous donation of a range of atomic absorption spectrophotometer lamps.

Thank you also to the YMCA for their very generous donation of outdoor vests.

ECOLINC VCE PD

A very successful VCE PD day was conducted on Friday 8 December at Ecolinc. Following introductions to the new Chemistry study design and overviews of VCE Biology, Environmental Science and Physics, teachers participated in a range of hands on Ecolinc SAC tasks. A similar program is planned for next year.

SCHOOL BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN FOR 2007

All Ecolinc P-10 programs are designed to address VELS outcomes, and all VCE programs are designed as complete SAC tasks with teacher answers and assessment sheets included. The new Ecolinc 2007 Curriculum Programs brochure outlining all P-12 programs is now available on the Ecolinc website www.ecolinc.vic.edu.au

Please contact Ecolinc if you would like a personal copy, or to secure your 2007 booking.

BOOK NOW TO SECURE YOUR 2007 BOOKING DATE TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT



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