

To the School staff,

In recent years a number of initiatives have been launched to encourage children to make healthy food choices, these programs are all in response to the growing problems of childhood: obesity, diabetes and tooth-decay. The team at Edible Landscape have now launched their own unique program; the Adopt-a-tree program. The Adopt-a-tree program empowers and encourages children to plant and care for their own fruit trees. It is a unique program designed in such a way to ensure a fruitful harvest.

The standard Adopt-a-tree program involves 5 site visits:

### **Visit 1: Site analysis**

The team at Edible Landscape meet with teachers and work with them to decide on the best location and variety of trees.

### **Visit 2: Weed removal and soil improvement**

The team at Edible Landscape will work with the children, teachers and parents to remove weeds and improve the soil by the addition of compost, worms & castings. The children will learn: what is a weed, why worms are important, and some very basic soil science. This class also includes a taste sensations session where the children will be able to taste some unusual fruits not available on the supermarket shelf.

### **Visit 3: Tree planting**

Once again the team will work with the children to plant the trees. Normally grade2/3 is the preferred age group as they will have time to grow with the trees and hopefully eat the harvest. The children will learn about; plant requirements, flowers, pollination and the importance of bees.

### **Visit 4 & 5: Inspection, feed and weed**

Approximately 1 and 2 months after planting the team will pay the trees a visit and ensure that the trees are healthy. This can be timed to coincide with the school holidays if preferred.

For 12 months after planting the children are sent regular emails detailing exactly what they should be doing for their trees and what they should be seeing.eg. Blossom, fruit set. Also emails detailing curriculum links can be sent to the teachers.

Please feel free to visit our website or contact us about the program, we would be more than happy to discuss the program with you.

Best regards,

Brendan & Elizabeth Bolton  
Edible Landscape

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