### **Killarney School EcoClub 2020**

# **Pre-Spring Newsletter**

February 26th, 2020



### **EcoClub Receives Boundary Consumers Co-op Grant**

The EcoClub recently received a \$500 grant from the Boundary Consumers Co-op. The group proposal was centered around recycling items that are not normally recyclable in our local facility. The money was used to purchase a Break Room and Coffee Pod recycling box from Terracycle. Read more about Terracycle on their website:



https://www.terracycle.com/en-CA

## Vermicomposting at Killarney School

By Mr. Outhwaite



### We've got worms!

Over the past few weeks we have been rolling out our worm composting program at Killarney School. Students collect vegetable and fruit waste at lunch, during their nutrition breaks, and any other time healthy snacks are consumed. The compost is then brought down to the EcoClub room and deposited into our green holding containers so it can be frozen overnight, thawed, processed, and then fed to our Red Wiggler worms. We have a healthy multi-tiered worm tower where each of the 5 floors will convert approximately 5L of food waste into vermicast in roughly a month. We also have a large Urban Worm Bag that is almost fully activated. The plan is to use the vermicast to enrich the soil of the Learning Garden in the spring.

To learn more about worm composting visit:

https://www.planetnatural.com/worm-composting/

https://www.redwormcomposting.com/getting-started/

## Recycle: Batteries and School Supplies

#### By Aaron Mason

There are several of these bins set up around the school. We encourage children to bring in used batteries and school supplies from home and place them in these bins.

Batteries accepted include: alkaline, lithium primary, lithium ion, nickel cadmium, small sealed lead acid, nickel metal hydride, and nickel zinc batteries.

School supplies accepted include: mechanical pencils, highlighters and highlighter caps, markers and marker caps, permanent markers and permanent marker caps, pens and pen caps, and dry erase markers and dry erase marker caps.



Information on Battery Recycling: <a href="https://www.call2recycle.ca/manitoba/">https://www.call2recycle.ca/manitoba/</a>

Information on Staples Recycling Partnership with Terracycle:

https://www.terracycle.com/en-CA/brigades/staples-en-ca

### Learning Garden Update

By Mae Steele & Mrs. Campbell

We received a \$3000 grant from Nutrients for Life to use with the learning garden. This money allowed us to buy and construct seed beds, a fence, materials to build a shed, and to construct our outdoor compost bins. We also purchased soil and seeds.





We collected old copies of the Killarney Guide (which is printed with soy based ink) and folded them into seedling starter boxes. Zero waste! Why is soy based ink important? It prevents chemicals from traditional inks from leaching into our soils.

There may still be snow outside, but we are busy planting seeds. We began planting our seeds in early February and hope to move them into the learning garden in May. As the plants grow, the newspaper pots will break down and be composted into the soil. We have planted carrots, lettuce, bush beans, tomatoes, pumpkins, bittergourd, and celery.

Youtube video that shows how to fold your own starter box. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dlGQP81yfo

# Household Hazardous Waste Day Saturday, April 25th 10am - 2pm Shamrock Centre

