

Preparing for Mosquito Season

Wednesday 19th October

Mosquitoes are a known risk to the community in the south west. The high risk period usually starts in November and the Shire of Capel is taking steps to make all community members aware of this risk. As part of this program Carla Webster (Environmental Health Assistant) and Rae McPherson (Natural Resource Management Officer) from the Shire of Capel are visiting Child Side school to talk to the children.

The Shire's website provides great details regarding mosquito safety, populations, trapping and how they can be repelled naturally. One natural method of managing mosquito numbers is by looking after our native bats; this is a species that the children have been investigating as part of their Big Ideas project focusing on Night and Day.

Carla and Rae will be providing information about the bat's habitat, life cycle and diet. Each day a bat will eat their own body weight in mosquitoes, making them a very effective natural predator. The school intends to investigate how to attract more bats into the general area to help manage the risk locally, which will include building bat boxes using the designs available from the Shire of Capel website.



Photo Opportunity:

Come along to Child Side School on Wednesday 19th October when Rae and Carla from Capel Shire will be talking to the children and helping them to build a bat box on the day from 10:30am

Contacts:

- Leonie O'Connell (Child Side School - Co-Principal)
0419 511 133, childside@bigpond.com
www.childsideschool.wa.edu.au
- Carla Webster (Capel Shire - Environmental Health Assistant) or
Rae McPherson (Capel Shire - Natural Resource Management Officer)
9727 0222, info@capel.wa.gov.au
www.capel.wa.gov.au

For more information contact Karron McDonald (0410 646 542) or Leonie O'Connell (0419 511 133) or visit our website: www.childsideschool.wa.edu.au