Loretta is a leader

In her 16 years as a teacher at Mount Waverley Primary School, Loretta Leary has guided hundreds of children in how to live environmentally sustainable lives.

Under Loretta’s leadership, the school has achieved a Five Star Sustainable School status after undertaking a number of energy, water, waste, food and biodiversity initiatives. The school has solar panels, water tanks, fruit and vegetable gardens, recycling initiatives and a wildlife corridor. Loretta (pictured below) also organises the school’s participation in Clean Up Australia Day and National Tree Planting Day.

"The children enjoy learning about the environment and often they’ll be the ones going home and getting mum and dad to start a worm farm or establish a vegie patch, which is fantastic," Loretta said. In May, Loretta was recognised for her impressive leadership when she was awarded the Sir John Monash Award for Sustainability Leadership.

There were two highly commended mentions given in the same category of the Council-organised awards. One was awarded to Bryan Loft of the Friends of Dandenong Valley Parklands, for his work in preserving native bushlands in Monash. The other was awarded to a working group of Council’s Environmental Advisory Committee, for its role in developing Monash’s new 10-year Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Meet your new councillor

John Sharkey is getting out and about in Mulgrave and Wheelers Hill, meeting with residents and learning about local priorities, following his election as a councillor for the area in mid-June.

Cr Sharkey (pictured above centre with residents Constantine and Poppy) was elected as a Mulgrave Ward Councillor in a countback of the 2012 Council election, held to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Paul Klisaris.

A migrant from Ireland 24 years ago, Cr Sharkey is raising his two children in Monash with his wife Kerry. He is a consultant change manager, executive coach, educator and author.

“I’m honored to represent the communities of Mulgrave and Wheelers Hill, which are great, safe suburbs with lots of friendly people," he said.

“I think one of the biggest strengths of our communities is our cultural diversity, which we should all continue to embrace," he said.

“There are always things we can improve in our suburbs, so I encourage people to contact me to discuss any suggestions they have. I want to make a positive difference in our communities.”

For Cr Sharkey’s contact details, please see page 6.

Next Council meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 26 July, from 7pm. It will be held at the Monash Civic Centre (293 Springvale Rd, Glen Waverley).

Community members are welcome to attend and can submit questions in advance for consideration at the meeting. The meeting’s agenda will be published on Council’s website on Friday 22 July.

For more info:
9518 3555