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Media Release:

Growing up green

Kitchener Public School students are getting little green thumbs thanks to a donation from Yancoal Australia's Austar Coal Mine to build an edible garden.

The edible garden beds are proving popular with students, with many involved in laying the soil, planting, tending the garden, as well as eating the ripened fruit.

Luke Somerville, Principal of Kitchener Public School is thrilled with the response from students, teachers and parents.

"This project has been a rewarding and educational experience for our students. They have gained first-hand knowledge about growing an edible garden of healthy food for their growing bodies and minds.

"Thanks to the donation we have reinforced the garden bed, installed a drip irrigation system and planted a variety of fruit including strawberries, blueberries, blackberries, loganberries, boysenberries, raspberries and passionfruit," said Luke Somerville.

Austar Coal Mine Operations Manager Brian Wesley said, "We are proud to be supporting a fun project with health and educational benefits for the kids in Kitchener.

"The school have plans to improve and irrigate their vegetable garden and we are happy to continue to support their efforts," said Brian.

The donation was part of the Yancoal Community Support Program, which aims to make a positive difference in the local community and the lives of the people who work and live in the areas it operates.

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