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Media Release:

Garden upgrade on track for Cudgegong Valley Public School students

Teachers and students at Cudgegong Valley Public School will be using their green thumbs shortly with phase one of the garden refurbishment project underway.

Moolarben Coal is a strong supporter of the garden upgrade joining in partnership with the school to fund the project and lending a hand to prepare the garden recently.

The project involved clearing the existing garden, removing the current garden beds and overgrown vegetation and levelling the area, to prepare the site for the next stage where the new water efficient wicking beds will be installed.

Amy Lee, President of the Cudgegong Valley Public School Parents and Citizens' Association was delighted with the progress of the garden project.

"The current garden beds are deteriorated, and we recognised the need to replace them with new water efficient wicking beds.

"It was a big job, that involved manual labour and the loan of a tipper truck and skid steer to efficiently remove the old timber beds and soil, cleaning up the garden site.

"The Moolarben team got to work quickly and made a big difference, readying the space for the next phase of the garden project.

"We are now looking at whether we can upcycle the old timber for the second stage of the refurbishment.

"The new wicking beds will enable students and the community to continue developing their gardening skills and sustainability knowledge, whilst encouraging a love of gardening.

"We are thankful to Moolarben Coal investing in our school community and helping bring this project to life," said Amy.

Cudgegong Valley Public School was established in Mudgee in 1984. The school provides a high-quality, low-cost education that supports every child's growth. It is proud of its students' success in learning, and the fact that it has been recognised with an Eco-Schools Green Flag which is the highest accolade within the Eco-Schools programme, signaling that the school is actively embedding sustainability across learning,

operations, and community engagement. The community are invited to Cudgegong Valley Public School to volunteer in the garden during Garden Club, after school hours and during weekends.

Moolarben Coal General Manager, Tim Slater was pleased to support the school.

“Our team were happy to get their hands dirty, clearing and preparing the garden as part of phase one of the project.

“Research shows that creating and maintaining gardens helps students to develop knowledge and skills for sustainable living, so we are pleased to help fund and lend a hand to this initiative.

“We look forward to watching the garden project progress and seeing the wicking beds installed soon,” said Tim.

The donation was part of the Moolarben Coal Community Support Program, which is funded by Yancoal and aims to make a positive difference in the local community and to the lives of the people who work and live in Mudgee.

Yancoal is proud to be investing into local and regional Australia, helping build stronger communities across the country.

For over 20 years since 2004, Yancoal has grown to be one of Australia’s largest coal exporters: owning or operating eight producing mines across the country, employing over 5,500 Australians, contributing to the national economy, and investing in regional communities.

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Media contact:

Tracy Woodley

tracy.woodley@yancoal.com.au;