



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **TAP's On!**

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, Timboon Agriculture Project (TAP) will hold TAP's On!, a showcase of how Timboon P-12 School, Nullawarre and District Primary School and Simpson Primary School students and teachers are integrating agriculture into their curriculum with over 600 students participating in the interactive peer led learning expo.

At the Timboon P-12 Agriculture Precinct, with the assistance of experts and mentors, students will demonstrate what they have learnt in the classroom on such diverse topics as: visual soil assessment, the rearing of calves, Lavender on TAP, Stephanie Alexander's Kitchen Garden, irrigation maths, assessing show cattle, breeding poultry, genetics, DNA, rare breeds and much more.

Chris Hibburt, a vet with The Vet Group is pleased to be associated with the project to assist students to understand the scope of careers available to students in agriculture.

Mr Hibburt said, the project's emphasis is across the whole prep to year 12, "by the time they (the students) get to middle school we want them to be aware maths and science are integral to pursuing a career which is agriculture related."

"It's well mapped in their minds, agriculture is a career option when we're competing against other career paths," Mr Hibburt said.

Launched in 2012, the TAP has seen year 3-4 students becoming summer crop scientists, year 5 students exploring farm safety, year 9 students applying maths knowledge and skills to data from a large heifer raising business, year 9-10 commerce students developing a business plan for a lavender production enterprise and students in years 5-6 rearing ducks and chickens while considering the business implications of their ventures.

TAP is a partnership between Timboon P-12 School and WestVic Dairy. The purpose of TAP is to integrate agriculture into the curriculum delivered at all levels of the school with the assistance of local industry specialists. In its developmental stage, the project received funding from the Gardiner Foundation, and from a Commonwealth Government Empowering Local Schools grant. TAP's On is supported with funding from Brophy's School Focussed Youth Service.

Students, ex-students, parents, the community and local businesses are invited to participate in TAP's On! at Timboon P-12 Agriculture Precinct, November 21<sup>st</sup> from 10.30am to 3.00pm with master-classes by local chefs at 11.00am and 1.00pm.

Ends

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