



## **South Sydney High School and Sydney Ports come together to create a new outdoor classroom**

South Sydney High School has welcomed Sydney Ports' assistance in producing a new outdoor classroom with native trees and shrubs donated by the organisation.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to continue the planting of native trees at our school. It gives students the opportunity to learn about the environment, in an outdoor area while getting their hands dirty," said Martin Wiseman, a science teacher from the school. "And students can return to the school in 10 years and see the trees they planted."

Sydney Ports Corporation staff will join students from the school to participate in Planet Ark's National Schools Tree Day on Friday the 25th July.

The Corporation has donated \$2000 worth of native trees and shrubs to assist South Sydney High School in producing a new outdoor classroom.

Students from Years 8-10 have worked together to design the classroom and have sought advice from Randwick City Council Community Nursery to choose the appropriate native trees and shrubs for the area.

Students have designed the area as an outdoor learning environment as well as a place to encourage native birds and animals.

Grant Gilfillan, CEO of Sydney Ports Corporation, who is getting his hands dirty planting trees on the day said, "Sydney Ports Corporation values the local community surrounding the port and appreciates the opportunity to contribute in any way to the local community and environment. And it gives me an opportunity to go back to school."

Photo opportunity:      Time: From 9 am, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2008  
Venue: South Sydney High School,  
Contact: Jessica Berry  
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Additional information:

On the day, staff from Sydney Ports Corporation will help the students in planting 100 seedlings and mulching their new outdoor classroom.

Sydney Ports' environmental management staff will also make a presentation to students on the habitat enhancement projects associated with the Port Botany Expansion.

National Tree Day is organised by Planet Ark in partnership with Toyota and the AMP Foundation. It is the largest community tree planting event in Australia and since 1996 has seen almost 12 million native trees and shrubs planted on sites all over Australia.