Year 9 Science

Significant Concept: Plants don’t take them for granted.
Area of Interaction: Environments
Unit Question: How easy is it to feed yourself?
Year 9 students are currently investigating how easy it is to produce their own food. After exploring how many kilojoules are required for a teenage girl to function effectively they researched the food plant which would grow in Adelaide during Autumn and produce the maximum number of kilojoules.
Maria Lagana carefully planting her basil plants. Through studying the process of osmosis and diffusion students developed an understanding of why it is essential not to damage root hairs while planting.
Savannah Hall watering her plants.
Students investigated experimentally the quality of their soil and water. They researched methods of pest control and ways of improving soil fertility. On the basis of this information they wrote a management plan for the care of their plant.
Evelyn Manfield, Alice O’Connell and Marta Macris nurturing the early stages of their garden plot. Each week students photographed their plants and kept a journal on their growth.
Ashlee Thiele and Danica Gallarello with their beetroot plants. Students learnt how plants grow but exploring photosynthesis, respiration, transpiration, and translocation.
Vincenza Clemente excited about her tomato crop

Students harvested their food, weighed it and calculated the number of kilojoules they had produced. They then considered how easy it would be to grow enough food to meet their energy requirements. Finally they evaluated their management plan.