

# ZOOS VIC Fighting Extinction

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This term our school is involved with Zoos Vic in their Fighting Extinction campaign, 'They're Calling On You'. What is terrific about this is it streams into what we're learning in Inquiry and RE about 'Sharing The Planet', and why all living creatures have a right to live happily on this planet.

You may already know that 'They're Calling On You' is a campaign supporting the conservation of the Eastern Lowland and Mountain Gorillas in Central Africa. Their habitat is being destroyed by deforestation caused by illegal mining for Coltan which is used in making many of our everyday electronic devices. These Gorillas are classed as Critically Endangered for this and other threats such as disease and poaching.

Our school will be running a mobile phone drive, where you can drop off old and broken phones and accessories to be given to Zoos Vic. The phones are reused or recycled and the funds raised go to the Gorilla Doctors who give medical care to the Gorillas in their home, and to Zoos Vic to help them with their conservation programs. This also means less Coltan is dug up and so less habitat is lost, and also less phones end up in landfill. Another good thing about 'They're Calling On You' is it creates awareness about the situation and what we can do to help.

How can we help? Bring in your unused phones and accessories. Let your family, friends, neighbours, community and workplace know that they can help too. Remember to turn off your phone and delete all your personal data.

1 or one of the other Planet Kids will have a talk with each class about this campaign.

When we went on our excursion this term to Werribee Zoo we learnt about Fighting Extinction and habitat loss. We encountered the Western Lowland Gorillas who came out to eat and play They are also Critically Endangered because of habitat loss, poaching and disease. Here are the Gorillas at the zoo!!



If you want to learn more just go to this link and head to Zoos Vic.

<https://www.zoo.org.au/phone/>

It's all worth it for our Gorilla friends!

Thanks,

Grace C. (Environment Captain)

**PLANET KIDS!**