

YOUNG FARMING CHAMPION CASE-STUDY: TAYLA FIELD AND THE ARCHIBULL PRIZE

Horticulture joined The Archibull Prize for the first time in 2018 with YFC Tayla Field mentoring students. So successful was the partnership that Hurlstone Agricultural High School was awarded Grand Champion Archibull for their interpretation of the world of fruit and vegetables.

Tayla Field joined the Young Farming Champions program in 2016 while she was studying a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at Sydney University.

"Following the first workshop I felt very out of my depth and worried the program wasn't for me," she says.

"However, being in touch with such a supportive network over the past few years has grown my confidence in presentations, communication skills and industry involvement."

On graduation Tayla took a graduate position with salad producer One Harvest and in 2018 was able to combine her work and YFC experience in The Archibull Prize with Hurlstone Agricultural High School, Little Bay Community of Schools and Gwynneville Public School.

"This year was really fun and exciting to have Tayla visit. The farmer visit comes when we are in the process of coming up with ideas and we are not sure which direction we want to go in. We were able to ask Tayla questions and she gave us fun activities: the kids got to dress up with hair nets and coats and pretend they were in a factory-line packing spinach, and then they had a biosecurity activity. It gives them knowledge of what farmers actually do and that there are different aspects to agriculture they may not have seen."

Little Bay Community of Schools.

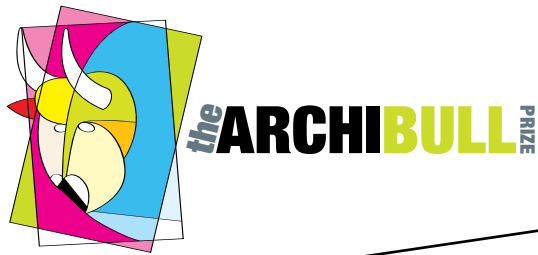
[WATCH THE VIDEO HERE.](#)



"Tayla was outstanding when she visited the students. She had plenty of activities for the children that were hands on and got the message across, especially in terms of biosecurity, which is always hard to explain to the students. Her slide-show was very informative in terms of technology and robotics. The school now has plans to add coding and programming to the curriculum."

Gwynneville Public School





TAYLA'S IMPACT AND THE CHILDREN'S ENTHUSIASM IS APPARENT IN THE BELOW VIDEO.

WATCH THE VIDEO [HERE](#).



"It is always a little nerve-racking walking into a room of strangers, whether it is adults or children," Tayla says.

"However the feeling you get when you go into the classroom is something special and welcoming. The pre-work the teachers do with the students gives them background to what you will talk about and I believe this helps frame the conversations and allows for more hands-on interaction and activities for the students. The students are happy to see you and have nothing but enthusiasm and energy to learn."

As part of Hurlstone Agricultural High School's Archibull Prize experience Tayla arranged for the students to visit the One Harvest state of the art packaging plant.

WATCH THE VIDEO [HERE](#).



"Going into schools for the first time brought everything together for me - the workshops, practicing the speeches, organising activities and presentations. It helped me understand the purpose of some of the YFC workshop sessions and really gave me an appreciation of what the Archie program means to teachers and students."

Tayla believes it is important for her to share her love of horticulture and agriculture in general with a new generation and has found volunteering her time has bought a sense of happiness. It is an inspiring career journey for a girl who grew up in Sydney with no agricultural connection.

SEE TAYLA SPEAK ABOUT HER CAREER JOURNEY BELOW, WHEN SHE PRESENTED TO STUDENTS AT THE SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW. WATCH THE VIDEO [HERE](#).

