Media Release



Friday 29 January 2021

COLES PARTNERS WITH PERINO TOMATOES TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN FOUNDATION Supporting healthy eating habits for Australian children

Coles is partnering with Perino Tomatoes to raise funds for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation (SAKGF), helping children form positive food habits for life.

Until Tuesday 16 February 2021, for every punnet of red or gold Perino Tomatoes 200g sold, five cents will be donated to the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation, with the aim of raising up to \$100,000.

Perino Tomatoes are 100% Australian grown, and exclusive to Coles. They are naturally sweet and grown in glasshouses using sustainable techniques - ensuring perfect growing conditions all year round. With children set to return to the classrooms, they are also perfect for 'back to school' lunchboxes, as a healthy snack or forming part of a delicious sandwich at lunchtime.

Senior Grower Manager from Perino Tomatoes Tal Kanety says the premium quality and taste of Perino Tomatoes is the result of a flawless growth environment and process, and the reason why they are such a hit with kids and adults alike.

"Every plant is pollinated, trained and worked on -by hand. In essence they are 'handmade' tomatoes that get individual attention by our dedicated teams, much as home grown tomatoes. Our tomatoes are ripened on the vine, which means they reach optimal sweetness" he said.

Coles is proud to continue its support of the SAKGF, an education-based food program founded by renowned Australian chef Stephanie Alexander AO.

"Perino tomatoes are delicious and fun bursts of goodness and we are delighted that this donation will help us continue our work of supporting hundreds and hundreds of schools and early childhood services across Australia helping students experience to growing, harvesting, preparing and sharing fresh, seasonal and delicious food," Stephanie said.

This latest initiative forms part of Coles' three-year partnership with the SAKGF, providing thousands of children across Australia access to a food education program that helps them develop a healthy relationship with food, self-confidence and life skills.

Hundreds of schools and early learning centres around Australia currently participate in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, reaching thousands of children and their families each year.

To learn more about the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation, click <u>here</u> to visit its website.

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