

## DAILY NEWS REPORTER

CREATING "greener" schools, innovative recycling plans, efficient use of energy and air pollution.

These are some of the issues that school pupils will tackle at the eThekweni Youth Environmental Conference, themed "Planet Earth in Our Hands", at Botanic Gardens this week.

Pupils from the greater Durban area will participate in

the three-day conference and will make presentations on environmental work at their schools.

There will also be poster displays, speeches and group work to increase the understanding of the young participants on issues that affect them.

One of the organisers, Sunita Doodnath from Umgeni Water, said: "The conference aims to increase children's understanding of environmental issues by providing an opportunity to build new and lasting friendships between children from different communities." Teachers will also have the

chance to share ideas on innovative projects and activities they have conducted with the pupils at their schools.

Doodnath added that there would be special presentations from three pupils who have excelled in promoting environmental issues.

They are: 10-year-old

# Pupils tackle environmental issues

Francesco Govender, of Atholl Heights Primary, who is a junior board member for the United Nations Environment Programme; Renita Balgobind of Solvista Secondary, who was part of the debating team on climate change and water rights at the UN Foundation Youth Leadership Summit in New York in June; and Truth Mkhize, who was the KwaZulu-Natal winner of the SA Youth Water Prize earlier this year.

