

Big wrap for big tree

IT could be as old as 125-years-old and it has stood the test of time through many children's education at Murrurundi Public School.

It's a Turkey Oak tree that stands large and tall in the small school's playground in the northern end of the Upper Hunter Shire that has been hailed a 'champion' tree.

The local tree has been recorded on the National Register of Big Trees for its significance, a register that records the biggest of every species of tree in Australia.

The Turkey Oak (*Quercus Cerris*) has a circumference of 4.95 metres, a height of 21 metres and crown of 23 metres.

More than 700 trees are currently registered on the website, which includes Australian native trees and naturalised exotic or alien trees.

The register changes as more trees are nominated based on a formula that includes the tree's circumference, height and crown spread.

National Register of Big



MASSIVE: Murrurundi Public School students with their big Turkey Oak tree that was entered into the National Register of Big Trees.

Trees coordinator Derek McIntosh said he loves trees and loves to spread this passion with others.

"I'm sure the tree is well known to many who went to

school at Murrurundi Public School," he said.

To check out all the champion big trees in Australia, visit <http://www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au/>