Care and Concern Group 2010 Report

Members of the Group

Mary Bartley, Madeleine Bonutto, Clare Dooley, Mechelle Fury, Ann Goodsell, Katrina Harris, Fiona Lillicrap, Lana Killian, Grace Martinelli, Anne McEniery, Amelia Robinson, Lily Simmons, Clair Sullivan, Simone Wightman, Bronwyn Wolski

Care and Concern Student SRC Sub Committee

Student committee members: Daniella, Bella K, Bella R, Holly
This year the C&C Student committee have written their own report as follows:

Clothing Collection
In term 2, the year 7 C&C committee helped to collect light weight clothing items which were sent to St Vincent de Paul’s overseas development division. In this process we designed and decorated boxes for the collection of these clothes. Throughout this term we also presented many assembly items to advertise the great project for such a great cause.

Stationery drive
The C&C committee also focused on the donation of stationery for children in the Soloman Islands, Kiributi and Papua New Guinea. The C&C committee helped with the delivering and collecting the boxes before St Vincent de Paul collected them for delivery. During this process we also advertised it in the newsletter and on assembly. This was a very successful project that the C&C committee was proud to help out with.

Book Drive
In term 3, the year 7 C&C group helped organise the 2010 Book Drive for the Good Samaritan Kinder School in the Philippines. In this project the year 7’s decorated and distributed boxes to the library and presented adverts to the school community, we enjoyed this project because we knew it was going to a good cause.

Care and Concern Register

The Care and Concern Meal Register has again enjoyed enormous support from the school community and has provided many meals over the year. About 60 people have registered with the group to assist with its services. The concept has been so successful and so admired that a number of other schools are looking into setting up a similar model within their own communities.

Mary Clarris has been invaluable in co-ordinating the delivery of the meals directly to the students of the affected families. This allows a low-key and very private approach so that people’s times of crisis aren’t broadcast to all. It is rewarding for the Group to have received the many notes of thanks throughout the year. To ensure there is no wastage and that all in need are helped; the meals that are approaching their use-by dates are delivered to the Casserole Bank (co-ordinated by the Parish) for immediate delivery.

There should be no difficulty in continuing this service next year.
Care and Concern Parish Morning Tea/Cake Stall Register

The Cake Stalls commenced in 2010. There were 4 cake stalls planned for 2010. At the time of this report three cake stalls have been held raising $1661. The last cake stall is scheduled to coincide with the 2010 Dec Christmas Carols. All money raised is used by the Parish to support families within our school and parish community.

The people who generously donate cakes and other goodies for this cake stall comprise of a group of parents at St Peters and Paul's School and Parishioners. The generosity of donations for the cake stall along with the support of the School and Parish community has made the first three cake stalls very successful in terms of the money raised and the fantastic team spirit involved. We would like to extend our most sincere thanks to all the contributors and supporters of this cake stall.

Furthermore we have found the cake stall is a wonderful connection between the St Peters & Paul's Parish and the School Community.

In addition the school cake stall baking register will provide cupcakes & muffins for the Peace Day Project to be held on the 18th November at St Peters and Paul's School.

Book Drive – Good Samaritan Kinder School

In Term Three, the Care and Concern Group held a Book Drive to help build the Good Samaritan Kinder School Library in the Philippines. The school cares for children aged 4 to 6 years from the slums of Bacolod City. Principal, Sr Leonie Duenas, visited Year 7 students last year to talk about her school. Our students were amazed to hear that the school had very few library books.

Special collection boxes were placed in the school office, library and Church.

Families and parishioners from the Sts Peter & Paul’s community kindly donated over 900 new and pre-loved books, as well as 170 library bags, toothbrushes and toys. Special mentions must be made to Amanda Monckton (who hand-made 30 library bags), as well as the McEniery family (who donated 100 bags). Mary Ryan’s Bulimba compiled a list of suggested book titles. The store also contributed a ride-on-horse and three hand puppets for the children.

The C&C Group worked closely with Mrs Ballentine, Mrs Brooks and Mrs Norman in the school library to facilitate the project. Many of the donated books were bought at the Book Fair held in the school library from Aug 23 – 27. (A percentage of the sale proceeds also went to Sts Peter & Paul’s School.) The theme for Book Week 2010 was Across the Story Bridge. The Book Drive gave students an opportunity to share their gift of reading with poor children in the Philippines: “a book in every hand”.

The Year 7 Care & Concern students also played an important role in assisting with the project. They informed the school community about the development of the project at many school assemblies.
In the final two weeks of Term 3, the C&C Group held a series of working bees in the parish meeting room to cover the books. Special donation certificates were placed in the front of the books so the children in the Philippines would know who had sent them. A letter was drafted to the children of the Good Samaritan Kinder School from the children of Sts Peter & Paul’s School. It told the children why we were sending the books and said we hoped they enjoyed them. A world map was included, pinpointing the location of each school, as well as photos taken of students and helpers during the Book Drive. Our Prep C students made a special book of drawings for the children.

The collected goods were packed into boxes on the final day of Term 3. School parent, Greg Delforce, of local business Triasx, offered to arrange the freight through the C8 Group. This included local pick-up, air freight, overseas clearance and delivery to the site. The C8 Group informed Greg it would be ‘honoured’ to do this free of charge.

The C&C Group would therefore like to acknowledge and thank both Triasx and the C8 Group for their wonderful generosity. A letter of thanks is being sent to members of these businesses.

The goods are now continuing on their way to Sr Leonie in the Philippines. C&C will let the school community know as soon as they arrive at the Good Samaritan Kinder School.

The C&C Group wish to thank all students, parents, teachers, support staff, parishioners, as well as the school’s P&F and Principal, Sr Anne-Maree Nicholls, for their continued support and encouragement of this project.

It has been and is continuing to be an extraordinary event. A blessing for us all.

**Clothing Collection**

In Term 2 the group collected lightweight clothing and stationery items for Saint Vincent de Paul’s overseas development division. Students in the Care and Concern group decorated the cardboard boxes and informed the school community about the collection at assembly. The collection boxes were set up in five areas of the school and thanks to the generosity of the school community we collected a large amount of clothing and stationery items for the Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Papua New Guinea.

Contact: Julie Abrahams (Overseas Development) Tel: 3010 1023
**Year Seven Peace Project Market Day**

The Care and Concern group are once again assisting in the Year 7 Market Day. We are providing support in the Classroom by facilitating groups of students in the craft, purchasing materials for making craft items and assisting in the Sausage Sizzle and Market on the actual day. The market day will be held on Thursday 18th November and the school and parish communities will come and visit our "Year 7 Reaching out for Peace Project" to buy their goods. All money raised will be donated to Saint Vincent de Paul, Good Samaritan Foundation and the Catholic Missions. This day ties in so beautifully with the Year 7 unit and will empower the Year 7’s in their last school community project and also aides in the commitment Saints Peter and Paul’s school has to the Catholic Missions.

**Donation of Crayola Pencils**

One focus of the school’s Care and Concern Group has been to raise awareness within the school community of ways that we can provide help to others in our local and overseas communities. At the end of every school year, the children take home their Crayola pencils from school, and in many instances these pencils are added to the family’s existing pencils. As our final initiative this year the Care and Concern Group is seeking to donate these crayola pencils to: Good Samaritan Kinder School in the Philippines and the St Vincent de Paul Conference within the parish who will distribute the pencils to children in indigenous and overseas communities.

**Annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Food Appeal**

Each year the Student Representative Council of Sts Peter and Paul’s School seek non-perishable food donations to assist the parish’s St Vincent de Paul Conference Christmas food hamper appeal. Last Christmas approximately 60 hampers were distributed to families in our community. This was in part due to the generosity of the families at St Peter and Paul’s School. If you are able to assist the appeal this year, please place donations in the box marked “St Vincent de Paul Christmas Food Appeal” in your child’s classroom. The donations will be formally presented by the Student Representative Council to the St Vincent de Paul Conference at the end of year school mass.