



## ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION (QUEENSLAND BRANCH)

### PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2007

#### WINNERS

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The Awards to the successful schools were presented by the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC on Monday October 29<sup>th</sup> 2007 at the Undumbi Room in Parliament House, Brisbane.

An outline of the project from each school is given below together with pictures of the students who received the award from the Governor on behalf of their school.

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#### CHAPEL HILL STATE SCHOOL

The **Creating Sustainable Values Connections between Self, Others and Place** was undertaken by Year 2 students at Chapel Hill State School



*Students used a story threading process where students connect to themselves, others around them and the place in which they live. Working closely with the Pullenvale Environmental Centre, students explored what it means to live with care and compassion, respect and responsibility towards themselves and others. They learnt about native animals and the importance of their habitat and the human impact on this. These young children demonstrated skills to become attentive and active members of a sustainable school community and responsible pet owners, demonstrating the basic principles of respect, responsibility, active citizenship and caring for others.*

#### GEEBUNG STATE SPECIAL SCHOOL

**Into our Community** project is operated by Geebung State Special School



*This project used a total school approach to familiarize students, aged to twelve years who have intellectual and multiple impairments, to operate within their community. These students experience great difficulties in learning and are unable to generalize and transfer skills. This means they must be taught individually specific skills for different situations and in different environments. The aim of the school is to develop independence in students to whatever degree is possible. This is reflected in its motto - I can do it by myself. As a result, many learning activities occur in the community and real situations. Students develop a commitment to and pride in their local and wider areas and experience the joy of being a contributing member of a larger community within Australia.*

## CALAMVALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

For the last three years, **Calamvale Community College** has conducted **Operation Christmas Child**

*Students from the school are invited to fill a shoe box with 'Six Somethings'- something to love, something to play with, something to write/draw with, something of a personal hygiene nature, something to eat/chew and something to wear. Working in close cooperation with Samaritan's Purse, Australia, students provided more than 450 boxes of gifts in 2006, to children who have suffered the effects of war, natural disasters, poverty, illness or neglect. The project has brought the college community closer and enabled students to see the impact that one community can have on a global issue. The project demonstrates community commitment, pride and how people can make a positive change to other people's lives.*



## EATONS HILL STATE SCHOOL

**Lest We Forget** for students at **Eatons Hill State School** provided additional meaning this year.

*The school revitalised its approach to this important commemoration and incorporated the core virtues and values with the Anzac Day ceremony. A memorial site was developed within the school and students were immersed through researching these times, making wreaths and a commemoration quilt, taking part in the Ceremony and experiencing modern and historic military equipment provided by community organisations involved. On Remembrance Day later this year, wreaths made by the students will be laid on the graves of 11 Australian soldiers in France by students from the local French Primary School with whom the school has contact. Students from both schools will link at that time using teleconference. This is an enriching experience for all involved across many generations and globally.*



## EVERTON PARK STATE SCHOOL

A **Kids Health Committee** was formed by students at **Everton Park State School** to provide input and promote an active and healthy school.

*Students responded to the challenge and advised on ways to reduce childhood obesity, how to link with the school "Walk and Talk" program and promote the new healthy tuckshop menu. The Committee promoted that physical activity and healthy eating should be part of everyone's daily life. They developed their mascots, displayed posters designed by students, established weekly awards and a Friday walk into the program. The contributions and achievements of the Kids Health Committee are beyond what might be expected of twelve year old students and through this collaboration they have promoted many characteristics of good citizenship.*



## CHATSWORTH HILLS STATE SCHOOL

Using the theme **Keep Koalas in Our Community** to represent a sustainable community, students at the **Chatswood Hills State School** explore environmental sustainability issues.

*The school is adjacent to the Koala corridor. This extensive environmental program operates throughout each year and involves all students. Recent themes include water and resource conservation, waste minimisation and habitat reconstruction. Activities include studying compost, paper recycling, and becoming environmental rangers. In 2006 one specific activity included constructing a mural where each student could express in art form what caring for the environment meant. The leadership theme is developed through operating a Student Council, project clubs, electing school captains and student councillors. Through environmental education themes, students demonstrate their leadership, commitment to environmental sustainability and other community responsibilities.*



## HAMILTON STATE SCHOOL

### Voices in the Community project at Hamilton State School

*This project consists of students from Prep-Year Seven who form a choir and make a commitment to visit aged care facilities. They also perform at weekend functions within their community. Through the Choir on Tour Project, students of all ages embrace the visit and performance to the older residents. After their performance the children mix with the residents. One endearing aspect initiated by the students and continues without any input from adults occurs at Christmas when students make Christmas Cards to give out to make sure everyone gets at least one present. This year the City Council provided a community grant to provide transport assistance and a local business donated a sound system. The Project demonstrates good citizenship, service and caring towards others.*



## HILDER ROAD STATE SCHOOL

### Refugees- conflict and change was experienced by the students in Years Six and Seven at Hilder Road State School.

*This provided students with insights into the human rights enjoyed by people in Australia and of the need to protect these. It assisted students develop an understanding of situations in other countries that lead to abuses of human rights and for people to flee their homelands and become refugees. They worked with refugee and migrant staff from a local state high school which assisted students develop an appreciation of the difficulties faced by refugees in adapting to new cultures in new countries. Through studying the human rights issues presented, students reflected on their own value systems and what it means to live in a democracy such as Australia. Students found effective citizenship can be encouraged, developed and enacted through gaining broader cultural knowledge and tolerance.*



## MARSDEN STATE SCHOOL

### Building a War Memorial as a Community Service Project was the project of the 2006 Student Council of Marsden State School.

*The students identified with the ANZAC theme through studying units of work, having ex-serving family members and a teacher who was a Reservist who had been deployed on active duty. The project has strengthened the already strong existing connection with the ANZAC culture within the school, and encouraged students to become involved as active citizens through the organisation of the Memorial Service. The goal of the Marsden State School Student Council was to create good citizens that respect and understand the culture behind Australia's development and the contributions made by serving men and women throughout our history. Equally important was that students recognised the need to pursue their own goals and make their own contributions.*



## REDLAND BAY STATE SCHOOL

### The Leadership Program, **Unlocking the Keys to My Potential**, is undertaken by every student in Year 7 from the Redland Bay State School.

*Students develop an awareness of their own potential and the importance of being active citizens of a local community and the broader Australian community through being monitors for key duties within the school. The program culminates with the students attending a leadership camp which has activities built around epic Anzac events, such as the Siege of Tobruk, the Western Front, and Kokoda Track. The project allows all students to confront the Anzac character, demonstrate the values of courage, perseverance, self-sacrifice and mateship, which it is considered will make them effective Australian citizens and leaders in our community.*



## **ST FINBARR'S SCHOOL, ASHGROVE**

**Development, Discovery, Dignity from St Finbarr's School, Ashgrove**

*Every second year, the Years Six and Seven students embark on an educational tour to Canberra for a week of discovery. In the lead up to the excursion, the children focus on leadership, participation, gaining personal independence and learning about Australian government. Students also gain at first hand, independent living skills as for many it is their first time away. During their term of work and their culminating visit to Sydney and the nation's capital, the students learn more about our country, its government and their participation as citizens. Benefits include students sharing memories with one another and teaching others who are younger about the Australian Government and our beautiful country.*



## **ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, CHILDERS**

**The Leadership Program for students at St. Joseph's School, Childers**

*This project enables Year Six and Seven students to be directly involved in school activities. After investigating qualities of effective leaders, students evaluate their own abilities and may nominate for a position of school leadership. All Year Seven students are members of the Student Council and each chooses to be involved in one of the four areas - Student Council Executive, Sports Ministry, School Spirit Ministry or Social Ministry. Within each ministry, students are responsible for a variety of projects. Recent examples include supporting the local St. Vincent de Paul Society; raising in excess of \$700 for indigenous Australians in the Wilcannia district; developing a school vegetable garden and selling the produce to support projects. From this involvement, students develop a commitment to serving their community, and developing the skills and talents to become the future leaders of our country.*

