

Primary school entry #28: St Paul's Primary Rutherford



The Rutherford Rag



DISCIPLE: Maryanne Hacker was excited about World Youth Day.
Picture: Emily Hayes

Teacher leads pilgrims on faith journey

By ISABELLA CREBERT

A GROUP of young Catholics from the Maitland-Newcastle diocese gathered in Rio de Janeiro to celebrate their faith and beliefs with other Catholics from around the world.

St Paul's year 1 teacher Maryanne Hacker was one of the lucky 28 people from the Maitland-Newcastle diocese who attended World Youth Day 2013 in Rio.

Mrs Hacker went to her first World Youth Day in Paris in 1997 at the age of 15 and has been involved ever since. This year she was sponsored by the Catholic Schools Office Diocesan Youth Ministry to assist in developing young leaders for the church.

This year's World Youth Day was special as it was the first time that Pope Francis hosted the celebrations and Mrs Hacker was excited to see him.

Assistant director of Catholic schools Chris Quinn also joined Mrs Hacker in Rio. Mr Quinn was a co-leader; he monitored the needs of the young people in the group. Mr Quinn was involved in the group's work in a poor Argentinian community. Like Mrs Hacker, Mr Quinn's main goal in attending was to participate in the spiritual formation, the prayer experiences and the celebration of faith that was provided through World Youth Day.

Joint effort for appeal

By EMILY CONNELL

ON June 10, St Christopher's Anglican Church and St Paul's Primary School Rutherford joined together in an act of ecumenism.

Ecumenism is when two or more religious denominations join together in unity to achieve the same goal.

Their goal was to create a Winter Appeal for suffering and needy families in the local community. The collaboration involved the donation of non-perishable food items and toiletries such as long-life milk, canned goods, toilet paper and toothbrushes.

St Paul's religious education co-ordinator Mr Perkins was approached by a member of St Christopher's welfare committee, Mrs Dastoor. She wanted to develop a partnership to help the many families that had approached St Paul's and St Christopher's asking for help.

The community of St Paul's was more than happy to assist them.

The Winter Appeal was formed to help as many families as possible during winter.

In the first week of the appeal, the community donated enough food to feed 16 families.

Mr Perkins was overwhelmed by the response of the students and families.

"It was amazing to see so many



HELPING HAND: Year 4 students Nicholas Challand and Harrison Gillett collect items for the Winter Appeal.
Picture: Tayla Moodie

people get behind a worthy cause."

As a Christian school, one of St Paul's main objectives is to help people in need. In three weeks, the appeal helped well over 20 families.

The collaboration worked tremendously well, and both parishes are determined to continue the appeal.

The school believes that no family

should be left without the essentials for healthy living, and they are happy to continue working with St Christopher's to support those in the local community.



DOUBLE TIME: Year 4 students practising their jump rope skills.
Picture: Samantha Claridge

Shuffle-skip keeps heart healthy

By EMILY HAYES

ST Paul's year 3 and 4 children are participating in Jump Rope for Heart this term.

Organiser and year 3 teacher Mr Smith said that this program "is an opportunity for our students to evaluate their lifestyle and start to make changes that will increase their physical activity therefore keeping

their hearts healthy".

The program, run by the Heart Foundation, is now in its 30th year.

Its purpose is to raise awareness of the causes and symptoms of heart disease. The program aims to raise money for lifesaving research and health projects.

The students skip in their PE time but it has been a very popular past-time during recess and lunch.

Alannah Horne, a year 3 student, is enjoying the program.

"I really like to skip. We've been trying to do different tricks and moves."

"I'm trying to do the shuffle and skip at the same time. It's not easy!"

The community is encouraged to sponsor the children and then come and watch their skipping skills on the Jump Off Day.

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