

Tumbi moves into the Asian century

EDITORIAL

By **MADDISON O'GRADEY-LEE, SAM ROSE and MASON BEEBY**

THROUGHOUT the 21st century there has been a considerable shift toward Asia, not geographically, but through education. The national curriculum has now prioritised "Asia and Australians' engagement with Asia", subsequently cementing the need to develop strong connections with our Asian neighbours.

What is the significance of creating such strong bonds right now? One reason may be that many of our Asian neighbours have had, and continue to have, a great influence over the rest of the world and they are continuing to grow and develop rapidly.

An understanding of Asia will imprint the capacity to be active and informed citizens on to young Australian minds.

This will not only help to create better Australian leaders who have developed an understanding of the diversity of cultures, but will also foster social inclusion and cohesion on a global scale.

This enables Australians to understand the world in which they live and create friendships and partnerships that will last a lifetime.

As Asia continues to cultivate new concepts for business, education and society, Australians will need to work alongside them.

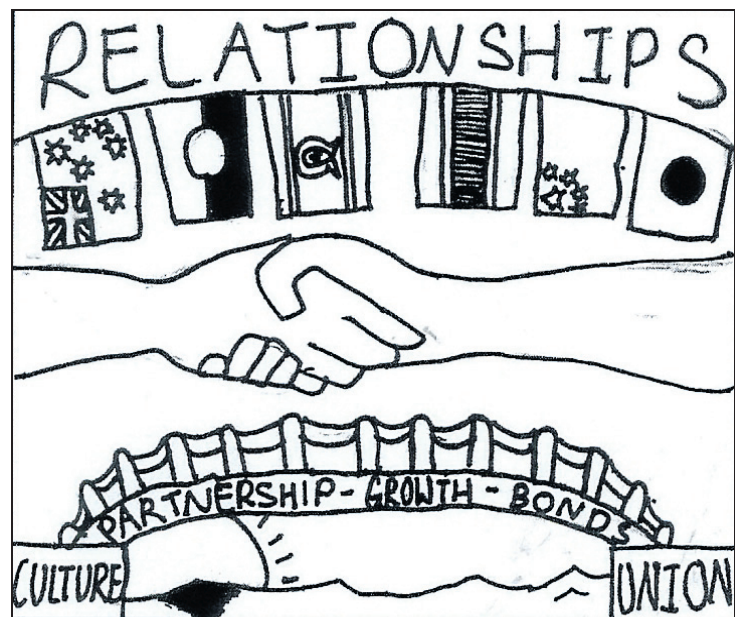
Recently TLSC - Tumbi Umbi Campus formed a new partnership with an Indonesian sister school in Sanpit, in central Kalimantan. This was welcomed by both staff and students.

"Having the Indonesian teachers at Tumbi was a great opportunity to learn about other countries and the way they teach their students," said Year 8 student Angus Giblin.

This sits alongside a partnership with Kashima High School in Wakayama, Japan, which was started in 2009. Every two years, students from Tumbi Umbi Campus go to Kashima High School and enjoy a homestay. They experience traditional Japanese culture, as well as Japanese life at home and at school. The favour is returned to the Japanese students when they visit Australia every alternate year.

"The exchange has broadened our students' understanding and appreciation of our global village, making them better leaders in the community as they understand there is a big world out there," said Raelene Cobham, the cultural exchange co-ordinator.

These opportunities benefit all students and build a strong platform for extending our relations with the Asian region.



Cartoon: Tony Phu



CENTRED: Tumbi Umbi Campus students in front of Uluru at sunrise.

Lesson of the nation's heart

By **DAVID PETROVIC, THOMAS JEFFERY and JAKOB COHEN**

AUSTRALIA is the sixth largest country in the world and has 23 million people. It is home to many natural landmarks that are regarded as some of the most beautiful wonders the world has to offer.

Its indigenous people have a unique culture that is one of the oldest on earth, spanning almost 60,000 years: many Australians never get to experience this ancient culture for themselves.

TLSC - Tumbi Umbi Campus recently embarked on a trip to the centre of Australia, passing through four states, and experiencing indigenous culture first-hand.

The 10-day journey involved 54 students travelling by bus to the Northern Territory. The journey was a great experience for all as they were educated about Aboriginal culture and Aboriginal Australia.

The indigenous community shared stories about themselves and their history with the students.

"The trip was a huge success because of the students and teachers that went. Not only did we get the educational value we needed, but it also created memories that we all will hold forever," said Mrs Lincoln, the excursion co-ordinator.

TLSC - Tumbi Umbi Campus hopes that the students next year also have a chance to experience this wonderful adventure.

Tumbi starts schools bridging program

By **ADAM NORTHOVER, ALEXANDER DENNY, JORDAN PALMER and ANGUS GIBLIN**

TLSC - Tumbi Umbi Campus is taking part in a program that is becoming relevant in all Australian schools.

They have linked to Sanpit High School in Indonesia and become educational partners, so together the schools can learn about each other.

One of the organisers of this partnership, Darren Brailey, was overjoyed that

his students would be able to connect with people in another part of the world.

"It is important for Tumbi students to connect with Indonesian students. This way they can see the similarities and differences in their cultures," he said.

The partnership allows for a better understanding of another culture and may go further than just high school.

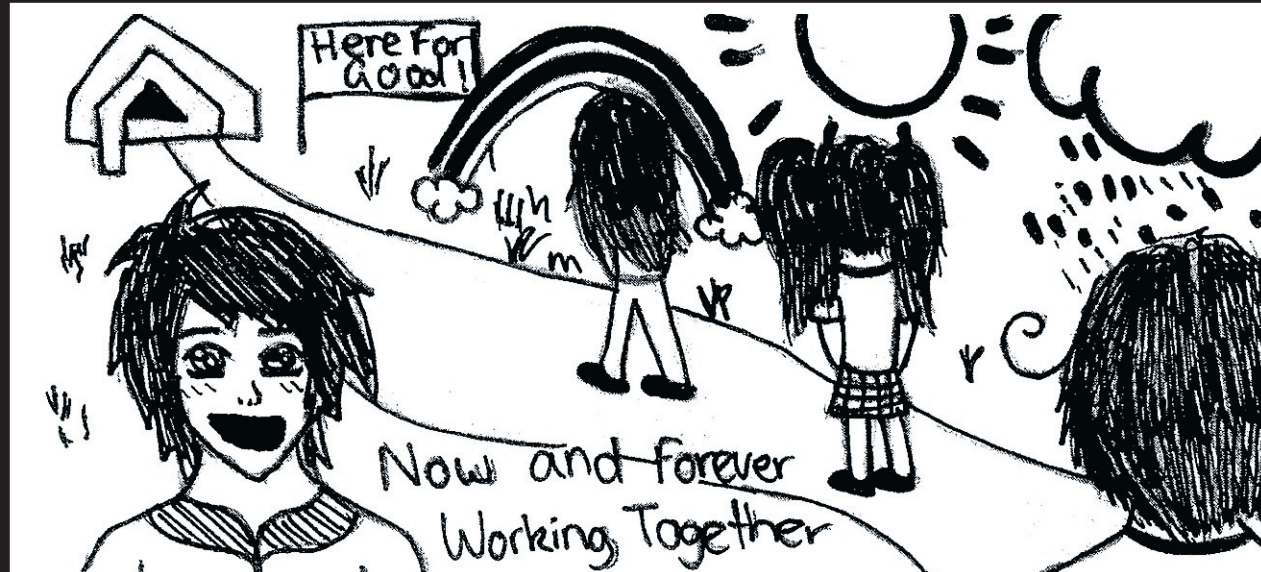
A partnership of citizens would also have a positive effect on future Australian and Indonesian relations.



LEARNING: Tumbi Umbi Campus principal Shayne Player, second from left, with Asia Bridge School's organisers and visiting Indonesian teachers.

Picture: Sarah Cook

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