

HELPING OTHER YOUNG KIDS

Proposal

That P&C encourage and support members and other parents who wish to give assistance by donations of books, money ,clothing and other resources to other children attending junior primary/infants schools, for example refugee children, indigenous school children in far west of NSW and/or children living overseas in our region.

This could be a specific farewell project particularly involving the families of departing YEAR 2 children OR a whole of school family affair

BACKGROUND

While we and our children are receiving all the benefits of living and growing in an Inner West Sydney school community, many other children miss out on these advantages. While every community has a general responsibility to think about these issues many of our children are still genuinely curious about other kids whether through direct meeting or mixing or through TV. Whether the kids are indigenous, or from overseas, or living in the bush or in refugee camps - they attract our children's interest and attention. Often peer and community influence reduces or eliminates this positive within a few years.

Why not take advantage of this spike of interest and openness to other people by establishing a project which our children can feel part of, whether this is mainly directed at Year 2 or all our kids.

While it seems easier to send money, or buy and supply specific resources, there are often provenance issues when money or new goods go astray, particularly en route to remote destinations. Perhaps initially it would be better to send or deliver preloved items such as books, writing and drawing materials, DVDs clothes etc.

However any project of this nature should not use P&C resources. The prescribed constitution for every P&C provides that

The objects of our P&C are :

- (a) to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation; and
- (b) to assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and in promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school.

INDIGENOUS for

Stacey supports and has contacts

YPIS Help stays in our State so more chance of follow up and connection between both sets of kids

Easier delivery and quality assurance

Age appropriate curiosity and indigenous interest – fanned by birds and nature visit

Options of sending money/ resources or buying appropriate resources much easier

INDIGENOUS contra

Resources lack not leading issue under Abbott

Others have greater need

Token help instead of Community liaison and development

REFUGEE for

Counter the huge anti-refugee stigma

Can piggy back on other schools, preschools, churches for contacts and support tips

YPIS help stays Local so more chance of follow up and connection

Easier delivery and quality assurance

Obvious need and positive response

REFUGEE AGAINST

Not Inner West issue

Others have greater need

Too controversial to involve kids

No genuine curiosity or interest

OVERSEAS for

WE have kids from overseas in our school

Felicity has access to contacts and support tips

Constant need in context of Australian aid cuts

Establish or reinforce 'global village' ethos

OVERSEAS AGAINST

Bull has access to contacts and support tips

Governance and provenance issues – how can we know it gets there and is used

Less likely to have follow up and connection

Patronising or embarrassing for kids from overseas

Less curiosity and genuine interest