

Camp Hill Infants and State School Chaplaincy Committee Report 2009

Our Chaplain, Chris Allen has been very busy this year developing his skills and expanding his ministry. He works at the school for three days a week. This year, he attended a grief-counselling course, which was funded by the school, and this has enhanced his skills in his role of helping children to cope with difficult family circumstances. The breakfast and beading clubs are still running strongly. Chris has supervised lunchtime activities for year 4's. He also helps with special needs' students. He has attended year 5 & 6 school camps and a camp for Scripture Union Chaplains.

As school resumes, he will become involved with the construction club on the infant campus during lunch times.

The Local Chaplaincy Committee meets monthly. Ken Mihill, the Scripture Union Representative for this area attends these meetings in a mentoring capacity. As the need arises, other meetings are convened especially for planning events.

To foster a community spirit within the school, a monthly parents' morning tea with a guest speaker has been instigated. Topics have included: teaching gifted & talented students, transition from Prep to years 1 and 2 to 3, internet fraud, web sites suitable for children and teaching with interactive white boards. This has been very well received by the school families and will continue in 2010. Many families attended a Christmas Carols evening run by our committee.

We were heartened to learn that the current Federal Government will continue to partially fund school chaplains. The money is paid to Scripture Union, Queensland which is the employing agency responsible for recruiting the chaplains. The Chaplaincy Committee has the role of guiding the Chaplain and raising funds to cover the shortfall in government funding. Government funds cover wages for two days a week and the committee raises money for the other day. We are also required to send Chris to professional development courses and provide resources for his ministry.

A large part of the Committee's role involves fundraising.

Our congregation very generously donated a total of \$1245.75 for the year, 2009, which is greatly appreciated. Other fund raising ventures were the Mother's Day stall, a garage sale, an Election Day stall, a crazy hair day to celebrate Chaplaincy Week and a spellathon raising a grand total of \$9759.55 for the year. Many of these activities were successful because of the wonderful support of the Principal and teachers at the school.

Vivienne Cowie
Representative of Eastern Hills Anglicans.