

Learning to care for others

Leader education awards 06

INTRODUCING and linking the young to other locals and local places generates a greater sense of responsibility for themselves and others.

So believes Lalor Secondary College assistant principal Maree Gaffney, who helps oversee a youth development program there that aims to raise students' awareness of what is happening around them.

Part of the program sees up to 22 Year 9 students take part in a 10-week volunteer placement program in local pre-schools, child care and aged care homes.

"It makes them aware of the difficulties that older people can face," Ms Gaffney said. "But also the amount of knowledge old people can have and they become aware that older people have things to say and want to pass on. "As a result of this they (students) are far better leaders in the school."

Years 7 to 9 students are also involved in a singing group that regularly visits local retirement homes and a knitting club that knits beanies and scarves for people in need.

"The kids love it (the program) and respond to it really well," Ms Gaffney said. "They would prefer to do things for their community than themselves because they are aware that, even though their families may be doing it tough



Lalor Secondary College students John (left), Gurjit, Omar, Jordan and Michelle take part in community service activities. Picture: FIONA EVANS N06WP701

financially, there are a lot more people doing it harder."

Ms Gaffney said she supported the new Leader Education Awards, where anyone can nominate students or a teacher in one of three categories: primary, secondary or teacher.

The awards recognise both students' and teachers' vital contribution to the community.

"It is extremely important for

schools to have links with their local communities and be aware and be part of the facilities out there," she said. "The awards are a great extension and confirmation of that program."

Schools can win \$40,000 worth of prizes. Entries close August 28. To get an entry form, phone 9875 8250 or download from www.leadernewspapers.com.au/education

"I think it is extremely important for schools to have links with their local communities and be aware and be part of the facilities out there

MAREE GAFFNEY

HUGE NEW SHOWROOM/WAREHOUSE IN EPPING

- CARPET • VINYL • LAMINATE • BLINDS
- PLANTATION SHUTTERS • TIMBER

Independent floors
0311PVO3874F/MF/B
Factory 2/8-14 Childs Rd, Epping 9408 0055

HEATING COOLING

BONAIRE VULCAN

- Ducted Heating to 7pts from **\$2400**
- Evap Cooling to 5pts from **\$2900**
- Refrigerated A/C
- D.I.Y Kits
- Split Systems

Get up to **\$500 Cashback** until Aug 31st 2006
Conditions apply

A+ AIRCONDITIONING
SPECIALIST ENGINEERS
Showroom
16/350 Settlement Rd
Thomastown
OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9am-5pm
SATURDAY 10am - 12.30pm
PH: 9464 7911
Fax: 9464 7922 AH: 0411 791 160

1ST QUALITY MEATS

FIRST QUALITY MEATS & DELI

DIRECT TO PUBLIC
BEST QUALITY AND PRICES IN MELBOURNE

HOURS: MON-FRI 6AM-4.30PM - SAT: 6AM-2.30PM

Val Verde Passata Cooking Sauce 700g 89¢ each	Pork Necks \$6.99 kg Ridiculous price Limit 5 units per customer until sold out
Virginian Leg Ham \$6.99 kg	Topside Beef Mince \$4.99 kg

Festa Italia on Saturday 12th August 8am-3pm.
Come along and enjoy many specials and a free sausage sizzle.
- All major credit cards accepted. EFTPOS available -
Specials until stocks are sold out!
112 TRAWALLA AVENUE THOMASTOWN
PH 9357 3853

WARDROBES

Flexi Robes
The Flexible Solution for Wardrobes and Shower Screens

'Allow our professional designers to create a wardrobe to suit your storage requirements. Our Experience is Your Assurance of Quality.'

- ✓ Custom Designed Patterns & Styles
- ✓ Extensive Range
- ✓ Highest Quality Materials
- ✓ All Work Guaranteed
- ✓ Established 27 Years
- ✓ Professional Service
- ✓ Hinged & Sliding Doors
- ✓ Free Measure & Quote

Modern Range of shower and bath screens
Sliding mirror door wardrobes from \$680

SHOWROOM AT 44 Strong Ave Thomastown
Mon to Fri 9am - 4:45pm, Sat 9:30 - 2:30pm **9462 4339**