Learning and growing

GENEROUS gifts from Year 1 students at Southern Cross Catholic College will help students in Papua New Guinea start the school year with the right tools.

The collection of school stationery, co-ordinated by the Year 1 students at Delany Campus, Woody Point, should reach the school children in the small village of Moveave in time for the 2016 school year.

SCCC support teacher for inclusive education Seta Nuendof, who comes from Moveave, said she knew how valuable the donations would be to local students.

"When the Year 1 students learnt how little the students of Papua New Guinea had, they wanted to do something to help those less fortunate than themselves," she said.

"Their donations will go a long way to help the learning of the students in Moveave.

"These resources will help the children learn and grow, just like our Year 1 students are able to here."

The idea for the collection following a chat between Ms Nuendof and another teacher, Marina Caspersz, in 2014.

Ms Caspersz had held a collection in 2014 with just her class, but this year extended the collection to the whole campus.

"The students made posters to promote the cause which they displayed around the campus," Ms Caspersz said.

"Each week chosen students would visit other classes to collect either coin donations or many wonderful stationery donations.

"We were able to fill two laundry baskets to send to Papua New Guinea which is a wonderful achievement, considering the small population of our campus."

Year 1 student Finnlay Cole summed up the feelings of his classmates and the reason they organised the collection.

"I felt very sad for the children in Papua New Guinea because we are very lucky to have so much at our school," Finnlay said.

"I donated rubber bands and pencils and am so happy to be helping other children."

The resources will be shared between the Catholic school and state school in Moveave.

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