

About SchoolAid

www.schoolaid.org.au

- **SchoolAid** is a student-led philanthropy network with the **mission to empower kids to help kids in need**, in particular where the capacity to attend school and learn has been affected.
- Through this network of support, real and genuine improvements can be made to children's educational opportunities and provide access to schooling around the world.
- SchoolAid was **formed in 1999** by former primary school principal, Sean Gordon in response to the anxiety he felt as a parent and educator about the effect the major tragedies of the world were having on the minds of our children. His aim - **to produce hope-filled philanthropic kids, who are resilient in the face of tragedy and understand the difference they can make** in their own communities and beyond.
- Through SchoolAid, kids are able to **reach out to other kids who require assistance, help and support to enjoy a normal school life.**
- **SchoolAid** provides students with the opportunities, tools, resources and fundraising ideas adaptable to any school environment. Australian students benefit by learning the skills of giving - **developing a sense of compassion and empathy with their peers and further developing the skills needed to take action.** Throughout our appeals, we also provide regular updates and feedback so the kids are connected to the outcomes of their action and giving.
- Since 2000, SchoolAid has raised over \$2.4 million across over 1,500 public and private schools Australia-wide (reaching over 200,000 students) to achieve outstanding results, including:
 - **In February 2009 SchoolAid** launched the **Victorian Bushfires Emergency Appeal** to enable and empower kids to help and directly support affected school communities. **In just 3 months, more than 600 schools rallied to raise over \$800,000** for their peers **as well as send hundreds of 'Messages of Hope'**, with schools still continuing to support this appeal.
 - 2008 Emergency Appeals in **response to Cyclone Nargis in Burma and China's Sichuan earthquake.** Over 400 schools participated in the appeal projects, **raising \$128,718 and sending hundreds of 'Messages of Hope'** to the kids of Burma and China. SchoolAid appeal funds were allocated specifically to assist in the educational response.
 - Following the devastation of **Cyclone Larry in 2006**, the **SchoolAid appeal raised \$170,000** to provide grants to individual schools in Far North Queensland.
 - Following the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2005, the **SchoolAid appeal raised over \$250,000 to rebuild an entire school in Banda Aceh.**
 - After the Beslan tragedy of 2004, **the SchoolAid appeal raised \$463,000 to rebuild a central park for the community**, named Friendship Park by the local children. **Students also sent thousands of "Messages of Hope" and condolences to the parents and children of Beslan.**
- **SchoolAid is a portfolio initiative of Social Ventures Australia (SVA)**, an independent, non-profit organisation, which aligns the interests of philanthropists with the needs of social entrepreneurs to combat some of Australia's most pressing community problems.

