

# **Carine Primary School Values Education Forum**

## ***Balancing Life's Values***

Squeals of delight were the order of the day at Carine Primary School as students celebrated their values through dance, song and circus acts in a Values Celebration Assembly on the first day of Term Two.

The 550 students from Kindy to Year 7 acknowledged Values for Australian Schooling such as Integrity, Honesty, Trustworthiness, and A Fair Go. The celebration was a Values Education Forum conducted by students as part of the Australian Government initiative for Values Education in Australian Schooling.

Students danced and sang along to a popular Vanessa Amorosi song that was adapted to include the values by Music Specialist, Frank Van Kuyk. Students also released helium balloons as a symbolic gesture of reaching for the sky in values education.

Year One and Two students, along with staff and the Junior Arts Group, dressed as clowns in keeping with the theme of the celebration through Circus Challenge. Clinton Woodvine from Circus Challenge entertained staff, students and parents with his amazing circus acts, and during workshops over the following two days had children and teachers working together to learn how to balance spinning plates, control diabolo and form human pyramids.

Joining staff, students and parents at the Values Celebration was Katie Hodson Thomas, MLA, Clara Deans, Project Officer Values Education representing DET, and members of the Carine School Council and P&C Executive.

Year Two teacher, Jacqui Burgess, said the whole school was buzzing. "Students will remember this experience for a long time and be able to associate the values we were celebrating with very fond memories," she said. "It was a wonderful way to start the term."

Carine Primary School incorporates values continuously throughout the curriculum as well as through initiatives including OSCAH (Our School Carine Aims High) Awards recognising student endeavour in practising the 5 Core Values of the Curriculum Framework and the Virtues Project which nurtures the gifts of character innate in all of us. The teaching and monitoring of Active Citizenship is ongoing and students are also recognised for outstanding citizenship qualities through the Aussie of the Month Awards.

Principal Donelle Church says the school has a very strong values programme. "We have every opportunity to nurture positive values in students, enabling them to develop character and integrity to use throughout their lifetime," she said.

Leanne Vardy  
Deputy Principal  
Carine Primary School