



Monday, 9 February, 2009

Launch of Australia-wide schools response to Victorian bushfires

SchoolAid has today launched an emergency appeal to enable Australian school students to support the children affected by the devastating bushfires currently ravaging Victoria.

Thirty-one fires are blazing across the state in what is recognised as Australia's greatest natural disaster. Three primary schools are known to be lost – with a further 70 schools closed throughout the state.

SchoolAid calls for the combined effort of students across the Australian school community to respond to this crisis affecting their peers. An emergency response kit will be made available online shortly – including resources, fundraising ideas and opportunities to create 'Messages of Hope' for the communities in affected areas.

The focus of the Victorian Bushfires Emergency Appeal will be to assist schools devastated by the fires and help those kids who have been impacted directly. Throughout the appeal we will be working closely with the Victorian Department of Education, Victorian Principals Association and Victorian Association of State Secondary Principals to establish where assistance is most needed.

To be involved, simply register your activity with us at <http://www.schoolaid.org.au/sign-up.php> and together we can make a difference as one united school community. If you have previously registered for the Burma or China Emergency Appeals in 2008, please login and add the "Victorian Bushfires Emergency Appeal" to your existing profile.

Thank you,

The SchoolAid Team

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