

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 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 - aiming 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**.
- Since 2000, SchoolAid has had outstanding results, raising over \$1.5 million and involving over 1,000 public and private schools and 400,000 students across Australia, including:
 - In 2008, **SchoolAid launched emergency appeal projects 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. In fact - the combined efforts of our Australian school kids saw them ranked the **second largest corporate/private donor** for Save the Children's emergency response in Burma – where the 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.

