

## connection to land



During Term 1, Grade 3 students from Corpus Christi Catholic School, Bellerve, studied the traditional lifestyle of Tasmanian Aboriginals.

One of the very first activities was to go to Bedlam Walls. This was an insightful and educational experience for the students who were able to sample food Aboriginal children their own age would have eaten. Students also learnt a lot about the Aboriginal connection to land and environment.

Grade 3 learnt how to build Aboriginal shelters, and Jaime Langdon and Sarah Lackey taught groups how to build traditional wind breaks. The conversation and excitement around this activity was a delight to see.

The students thoroughly enjoyed their Tasmanian Aboriginal experience.



*Freedom Redeemers Shelter Appeal* "Every drop in the bucket counts towards human generosity of spirit." Anna Crotty, Founder, tents4peace International Inc



During October, the Freedom Redeemers at St Virgil's College, Austins Ferry, raised funds to provide shelter for people left homeless after a devastating earthquake in Tibet and immense flooding in Pakistan.

The money raised was donated to *tents4peace International Inc*, which was founded by Hobartian, Anna Crotty. It provides emergency and longer term shelter for people affected by war and natural disasters. The tents are made from thick canvas, are water and wind-proof, and are lined with wool enclosed in cotton. They are 20m<sup>2</sup> in size, are built to last 5 to 8 years and cost \$520 each, including the cost of transporting and erecting the tents.

We hand dyed material that we made into green prayer flags to represent solidarity with the people of Tibet. On each flag we stencilled a crescent moon and star to represent solidarity with the people of Pakistan. We sold the prayer flags at lunchtime and asked students and staff to write a personal message of hope, help, care and good wishes on their flag. Then we sewed the flags onto strings and tied them up around the school.

As the harsh winter approaches on the other side of the world we are well into raising enough money for a second tent, thanks to the generosity of the students and families, and staff who made special morning teas to help boost funds!

In Tibet, "we have another 8 families still waiting desperately for tents before the winter snows," says Anna. Help now by visiting [www.tents4peaceinternational.com](http://www.tents4peaceinternational.com).

*Bridget Jenkins, Freedom Redeemers, St Virgil's College*

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