



## RESPECT CUP

On Friday, October 25, Year 9 students from Mercy Regional College Camperdown, Trinity College Colac and Emmanuel College Warrnambool came together at Leura Oval Camperdown to hold the first 'Respect Cup' among schools at this end of the Barwon South West region.

The event was first developed in 2013 by Barwon Health and partner agencies with only two schools in Geelong participating. Over time more schools joined, and the content responded to developments in curriculum and state-based initiatives such as the Respectful Relationships program. Now, there are ten schools that participate in the Barwon event each year.

The event supports schools engaging with the mandatory requirement to deliver healthy and respectful relationships education through the Respectful Relationships Education curriculum. The Respect Cup aims on developing positive bystander actions to support speaking out against gender-based violence and discrimination. It is a call to action and an opportunity for schools to take a leadership role in promoting healthy and respectful relationships. The event aims to engage young people in discussions about healthy relationships and respect, and where to get help if they, or a friend, are experiencing controlling, threatening or violent behaviour.



The day involved a presentation from the 'Strengthening Hospital Responses to Family Violence' project team from South West Healthcare, followed by four workshops which centred around Respectful Relationships. Representatives from Women's Health and Wellbeing Barwon South West, South West CASA, Victoria Police and the Department of Education facilitated the group workshops.

After the workshop activities students played in a mixed netball round robin competition between each school group. The winner of the day, Emmanuel College Warrnambool took home the 'Respect Cup',

kindly donated by Sinclair Wilson. Other local supporters of the day include Wannon Water and Camperdown Football & Netball Club. The schools involved hope to continue to grow this event based on its success in the Barwon region.

People experiencing domestic violence should call the national domestic family violence counselling service on 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732) and Triple-Zero in emergencies.

For more information, please call:

Emma Mahony, CEO Women's Health and Wellbeing Barwon South West (03) 5500 5490.

