



CEO WINTER SLEEPOUT 2020

This year's annual Mercy Regional College Winter Sleepout was somewhat different for the South West Regional Secondary School in Camperdown. On Thursday, June 18, about seventy Mercy Regional College students, staff and family members stepped out of their comfort zones and took part in the annual Vinnies CEO Winter Sleepout. The aim of this event was to raise awareness of homelessness and raise much needed funds for the Vinnies Winter Appeal. This year's event was a little different to other years in that the sleepout was completed from our own homes (our floors, couches, cars or backyards.) Participants logged in to a live event which was broadcasted all over Australia and hosted by TV personality, Dr Andrew Rochford. The broadcast shared heartfelt stories about some that have experienced homelessness, the resources that have helped them move forward and the ways in which we can help make this happen.



As a school community we reached our fundraising target of \$1,000. In addition to this night, on June 12 the school hosted a Sports Colours Day where the students were encouraged to wear the colours of their favourite sporting team. On this day the students donated a gold coin and half the funds were added to the Vinnies CEO Winter Sleepout and the other half were donated to the local Vinnies stores in our school communities. As a school, we raised over \$500 between the two campuses.

"In true mercy spirit", a wonderful joint effort was shown between the school based Sports Colours event and the virtual Winter Sleepout night.

Melissa Brisbane - Social Justice Coordinator, Mercy Regional College

