



GRANDPARENTS DAY

Students had the chance to see first-hand items from up to 100 years ago during a Grandparents and Special Friends Day held on August 27 at St Mary's School, Warracknabeal. The school invited Grandparents and Special Friends, asking them to bring items from their childhood.

There was a huge range of items grandparents brought to the school and much thought had gone into the items shared with the children. A miniature statue of St Therese stored in a tiny tin was one item that was over 100 years old, while another grandparent had a biscuit tin with a revolving insert, which was also believed to be a century old. Yet another grandparent showed a fossil of a shell which he had found embedded in a limestone brick.

Other items shared with students included a newspaper showing the astronauts who landed on the moon in 1969, a transistor radio, a wireless radio, record player and records, cassette player and cassettes, butter churn, meat mincer, typewriter, a telegram, encyclopedia, books of school readers which grandparents explained were the only books they had to read at school for a year, an old builders plane, sheep drenching cones, one and two cent coins, one and two dollar notes and pound notes from before 1952.

The oldest person attending was a 98 year old great grandmother who explained to one group of students how she had attended a one-teacher school at Sheep Hills when she was young. Other grandparents spoke of their days attending the one-teacher school at Lah. The visit helped students picture items from the past, which complemented the students' studies of the history of Australia in Inquiry. The day also featured a liturgy service celebrating grandparents and finished with morning tea.

Joy Quarrell – Principal



