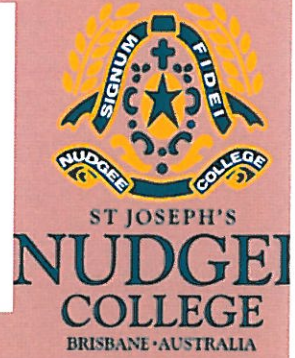
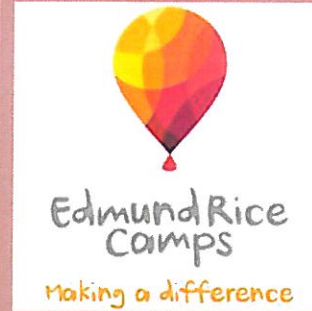


Edmund Rice Camp

The Edmund Rice Camp was facilitated so that Nudgee Boys are able to experience time with those who are less fortunate than themselves. On the 7th of August each Edmund Rice boy was paired up with a year 4 child from St. Pats School in Caboolture. The kids were excited for the camp ahead that was to be located in the 'House of

Happiness' on Bribie Island. For the Nudgee Boys it was to be a challenging but worthwhile experience. Over the 3 days at the 'House of Happiness' I learned a lot, I learnt what it was like to just be immature again, I learnt that the littlest thing in my eyes made a huge difference to others and I learnt to appreciate the little things in life.



Edmund Rice Foundation and Nudgee College, working in unison. Working towards a better future for the marginalised.



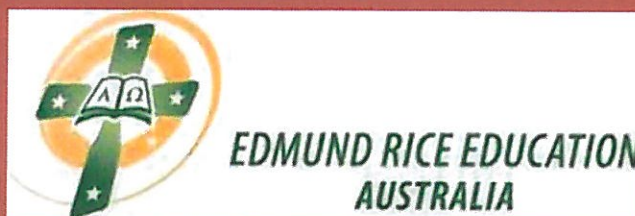
Catholic Social Teachings

All immersions related in some way back to the Catholic Social Teachings, for me I felt it could strongly relate to Human Dignity. Human Dignity is the Catholic Social Teaching that tells us we are to treat all people with the utmost dignity and respect. The Catholic Church teaches us that human life is sacred; it teaches and reminds us that all must be treated equally. We are all equal in God's eyes and therefore should be equal in one another's. While on my immersion experience I truly came to understand the Social Teaching of Human Dignity, I came across many different kids, all had a story's and each was individually unique. I took the time to make sure I treated each kid differently, because as we know not every person is the same. Each kid got my attention and I treated them with the respect I would expect, it's amazing what I learnt from just listening to each kids story.

Immersion programmes are designed to bring boys of the Nudgee College Community in contact with the Touchstones of Justice and Solidarity. During the Edmund Rice Camp I felt that the group of young Nudgee men embraced the touchstone of an Inclusive Community very well, each boy from St. Pats was included in every aspect of the Nudgee boys day. We ate with them, enjoyed team building activities with them, had quiet time with them but most of all we accepted them not because we had to, but because we wanted to. I think I speak for all of the boys on that camp when I say it was a very humbling experience. Inclusive Community calls us at Nudgee to accept and welcome all people, no matter the race, family background or ability. It also calls us to build the right relationships with all people and to make sure the common good is seen to. The common good is where the community looks to the benefit of all people. I felt all Nudgee boys embraced this touchstone very well and I believe it's what made the immersion experience so enjoyable.

Luke's Gospel and the Good Samaritan;

Jesus taught us through Luke's gospel that we must care for the poor and marginalised. Luke's gospel has themes of compassion and justice for the poor. The parable of the Good Samaritan teaches us that we must welcome the outcast into our community and treat all people with dignity and respect. While on immersion I felt like I was part of Luke's gospel, I accepted everyone for whom they were and respected them as if they had been a friend for a long time.



Now after reading this magazine spread you may be sat there wondering, what can I do to help? How can I become a part of this great experience? This is a normal feeling, do not fret it is rather simple. If you are over the age of 16 and wish to become a part of the Edmund Rice Foundation it's as simple as sending an email requesting that you'd like to become a part of their programme. The experience is life changing, and I would encourage everyone to be a part of it.

The Edmund Rice Camp was an experience that I'll never forget. At times I found it hard to keep patient and other times hard to continue to be motivated, but I just looked at my little buddy and realised it was all for him. The Edmund Rice Camp was an extremely humbling experience, when I arrived back to the boarding house and led on my bed it hit me how much of an impact we'd had on those kids. My favourite moment of the entire camp would be when we visited the beach, there was an old war bunker and all the kids gathered around it. They made a circle around me and on the spot I told them a war story, I felt like my Granch back in Wales, he would sit all us boys down and tell us stories of the war. The looks on their faces made me smile, that's when I realised how much it meant to the kids. The Edmund Rice Immersion truly was an experience that I felt fortunate to go on.