

C073: Passion Project

Students Shine at the Cairns Italian Festival

On the 26th of July, Year 7 students from C073 class, volunteered for the community at the Cairns Italian Festival at Fogarty Park. The festival brought together the Cairns and Italian communities through food, music, and cultural celebrations, and our students played a big role in supporting the event.

Students helped in the kids' area by supervising the sensory play tables, applying water tattoos, helping with face paint and bubbles, and supporting activities such as colouring, mask making, tote bag designing, and kinetic sand play. Some students also gave directions to people who were lost or welcomed guests at the entrance. *"It felt good helping the community and making those frowns on the kids' faces turn upside down"* one student said.

Students recognised to have learnt new skills: from being patient with younger children to communicating with people of all ages and backgrounds. *"We learnt the importance of friendship and communication"* one group shared, while another said they enjoyed *"working together collectively"* and making *"tons of memories."*

They also loved *"immersing ourselves into the happy, fun and exciting world of the Cairns Italian Festival,"* describing it as *"a fun and cultural experience"* with *"amazing sights and aromas."* Of course, no Italian festival would be complete without delicious food! Students raved about trying authentic Italian dishes like gelato, pasta Bolognese, and pizza.

Volunteering was more than just helping, it was also about bonding. *"It got me out of the house and allowed me to spend quality time with my friends and peers."* Several students even said the experience helped them feel more prepared for future job opportunities.

We're so proud of all our Year 7 students who took part in the event. For many, it was *"a really fun experience"* and *"a memory that will stick with us for the rest of our lives."* One group summed it up perfectly: *"We all had fun, and we'll definitely be back at the festa next year. Till then, CIAO!"*

Written by C073