GRACE GIVES HER TIME

After volunteering since she was in Year 7, this Somerset College Year 11 student loves helping in all sorts of community endeavours.

"I applied for my community service and other things like running stalls and raising money for people," Grace said. "From the award I donated $100 to Mudgeeraba Special School and after it went into the Mudgeeraba community and collected extra vouchers and money for them." "And with the rest of the money I gave to food for the homeless and to Clover Hill - where we do readings. "They were really happy with it and I just love seeing them."

Recognised by her school for her good deeds, Grace has achieved the most hours for community service award. Since year 7, Grace has been organising the Somerset team for the Mother’s Day Classic fun run.

She plans to continue her involvement for the coming year. "I love the feel-good factor about helping people. "Whenever I’m playing with the kids at Mudgeeraba Special School and then I see them smile, I feel so good."

Grace continues to read at Clover Hill once a week and every second week she cooks food for the homeless. She was also recently appointed to the Gold Coast City Junior Council.

Although she’s uncertain where the future will take her, Grace said that she was quite sure she would continue pursuing her passion for helping people throughout her life.

FUN ALL DAY LONG

Activities ranging from a sausage sizzle and disco to a performance by magician Super Steph reminded kids how fun it is to be under eight.

AT Saint Francis Xavier, we celebrate being under 8 years old by having an enjoyable, fun day. This day is a part of the nationwide Under8s Week. Every year, there is a theme. The focus for 2015 was "Look, Listen, Hear and Respond". This year we had a fantastic literacy in the morning which was really beautiful. The children, parents and teachers focused on a theme and listened to the story, We’ve Got A Plan.

After the literacy, the children witnessed a fantastic performance by Super Steph the magician, a favourite for young and old.

Children from Prep to Year 2 were involved in art and craft activities, cupcake-making and face painting. They had a variety of activities from the local community including the Runaway Bay Fire Brigade and Police (including Pat the police dog).

Our students also had the opportunity to meet the Titans, Wildlife and Fisheries representatives and Brian the reptile man, who had never come to our school before. After all this excitement, the kids were treated to a sausage sizzle and milk.

In the afternoon, they had a disco with a parent DJ, Troy Makinas. As a special surprise, each child at the end of the day got a personalised illuminated water bottle with the Under8s logo.

Prep student Ezequiel Chu said his favourite part of the day was checking out the reptile show. "I liked touching the snake," he said. "It was soft and I was very brave," he said.

MURGRAVE HILL STATE SCHOOL

MUSGRAVE HILL students took part in an array of fun activities to celebrate Under 8s Day. Parents were invited to join in the fun and staff organised a variety of activities such as slime, farm animals, face painting, bike riding and a disco. I had a rewarding time at the event. First, I went to help the kids with the slime. It was really fun making it and I got covered all over my uniform and my shoes. It was so gooey. Next, I went inside a Prep classroom to help the kids learn to write.