What is National Buddy Day?

National Buddy Day is an initiative developed by NAB and The Alannah and Madeline Foundation to celebrate friendship and help raise awareness of bullying in Australian primary schools. ‘Banding Together’ means joining forces with a buddy, friend or colleague on 12th June 2015.

This year our school, along with thousands around Australia, will participate in National Buddy Day on Friday 12th June. Buddy grades will share their knowledge and understanding from their recent participation in Life Education. Also the KidsMatter Team will be meeting with St Gregory’s Doncaster’s Principal, Margaret O’Donnell along with another staff member who will be demonstrating to our KidsMatter reps how to make dolls in sleeping bags. The purpose of this activity is to give students some understanding of how the homeless people would live in our community. The KidsMatter reps will then share their understanding of how to make these dolls with their class members so that we every student in the school is able to make one. If time permits on Friday buddy classes may also begin this activity.

The Better Buddies Framework helps empower primary school children by pairing older children with younger children and teaching them the values of caring for others, friendliness, respect, valuing difference, including others and responsibility. At St Martins, Prep and Grade 6, Grade 1 and Grade 3, Grade 2 and Grade 4, buddy with each other and whole year 5 level work together as one.

Currently there are more than 1,700 schools participating in the Better Buddies program. The Foundation’s aim is to grow Better Buddies to help create more caring and friendly school environments where bullying is reduced.

Karen Crimmins
Student Wellbeing Leader