

MEDIA STATEMENT



Tuesday, 20 September 2016

Goodwill tour strengthens Sister City ties

Twelve students from eight local primary schools will be immersed in Japanese culture during the October school holidays when they embark on the Bunbury-Setagaya Student Goodwill Visit.

The City of Bunbury is facilitating the tour for the Year 6 students and four parents to our Sister City Setagaya for an 11-day visit, where they will reap the benefits of a cultural exchange.

One of the highlights of the visit is always the homestay, where students meet and stay with a Japanese family for three nights and enjoy traditional Japanese culture.

Students will also be treated to visits to Tokyo, Tokyo Tower, Mt Fuji, Tokyo Disneyland, a fire station, two elementary schools, Setagaya City Hall and Inokashira and Kamakura Parks.

City of Bunbury International Relations Officer Carol McDowall said the tour was just one way the two cities continued to forge a strong bond.

“The Sister City relationship has been going strong for 25 years and it has brought many benefits,” Mrs McDowall said.

“Student exchanges continue to play an important part in fostering this relationship and it is always a pleasure to hear of the positive experiences from Bunbury’s young ambassadors.”

The students were given an official farewell by the City last week, which was hosted by International Relations Committee chair Cr Betty McCleary and featured the performance of three songs the students have been practising specially for the tour.

The 2016 tour is made possible thanks to the generous support of the students’ parents and Get Your App, Hello World, Quality Hotel Lighthouse and Tokyo Jacks.

ENDS

Jamie Tatham, Communications Officer
T: 9792 7136 **T:** 0447 936 037 **E:** jtatham@bunbury.wa.gov.au

4 Stephen Street, Bunbury WA 6230 - PO Box 21 Bunbury WA 6231
TTY: 13 36 77 **F:** (08) 9792 7184 **W:** www.bunbury.wa.gov.au