

School support for protecting children



Rizah Mene (Warraber).

IN recognition of International Day for Protection of Children, Mount St Bernard College took part in the Loud Fences Movement on Monday, June 6.

Mount St Bernard College's students all partook in tying brightly-coloured ribbons with key messages along the Broadway Street fence, as a symbolic act of solidar-

ity with survivors of sexual abuse, their families and communities. Billy Dau (Boigu Island) said how it would be, "good for all children to feel safe, and the children can be in a better world".

The Loud Fences Movement has spread to the Vatican and is recognised across the world.

Principal David Finch said the activi-

ties would be based on the theme for this year's Catholic Education Week celebrations Opening Doors in the Year of Mercy.

"Being a united community across the globe emphasises the importance of solidarity and the significance of International Day for Protection of Children being demonstrated through the Loud Fences Movement."

Similarly Barry Maitie (Moa), Leroy Messa (Masig) and Samson Lowatta (Masig) pointed out "Loud fences is an action around the world" and "all children should feel safe". Percy Maitie (Moa) agreed we need "to stand together as one".

The tied ribbons shall remain on the fence until the end of the school term then



Left to right: Sampung Thaiday (Erub), Tallis Mairu (Moa), Mapoo Thaiday (Erub), Leroy Messa (Masig).

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given to the CES (Catholic Education Services) in Cairns so that the CES can create a lasting reminder of the movement. Other Catholic schools across the Cairns Catholic Diocese are also partaking in the event.

Mount St Bernard College has invited members of the public to add their own ribbon with a mes-

sage as further support or reflection on child protection. Join in support with messages such as Elaine Lowatta's (Masig) "Along with many other schools, Mount St Bernards is representing the support for International Day for Protection of Children through our messages of support on the ribbons."



ABOVE: Oliphanu Daniel (New Mapoon) tying a ribbon.

BELOW: Meku Dau (Badu).



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