

BCE Media Release - Cambodian teacher exchange enriches St Kieran's Primary School

St Kieran's Primary School Brighton recently welcomed two educators from Stepping Stones School in Siem Reap, Cambodia for a week of collaboration and learning.

The visit was part of the school's ongoing commitment to Harvest Cambodia, an Australian charity providing better educational opportunities for young Cambodians.

St Kieran's Principal, Ben Gray, said the week with Cambodian educators Kang and Sovann was incredibly rewarding.

"Kang and Sovann participated in classroom activities, observed teaching methods, and shared insights into Cambodian culture and education," Ben said.

"Their visit has not only enhanced our students' awareness of different cultures but also provided our staff with invaluable insights into different educational practices."

Harvest Cambodia works with Stepping Stones School to provide teacher training programs that support teacher development in Cambodia and acts as effective teacher renewal for the St Kieran's staff.

"We hope that the experience has given Kang and Sovann some new ideas and approaches they can use in their own classrooms."

The whole school community embraced the cultural exchange, coming together for a special dinner featuring a selection of traditional Cambodian and Australian dishes.

"The dinner was a chance for our students, families, and staff to connect with Kang and Sovann on a personal level, deepening mutual understanding and respect," Ben said.

"During the evening, attendees learned more about the annual teacher training program and how it not only supports teachers in Cambodia but also boosts the wellbeing of staff at St Kieran's."

At the end of the year, teachers from St Kieran's will head to Cambodia to visit the Stepping Stones School.

"For our staff, this enriching cultural experience is an opportunity to rediscover what makes teaching so meaningful."

"It provides an overwhelming sense of connection, passion, and appreciation that leaves our staff feeling renewed and energised."

The visit is an extension of St Kieran's Primary School's annual school goals, which emphasises the importance of staff wellbeing.

For more information, and how your school can get involved with the program, please contact Ben Gray at St Kieran's.

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