

18 November 2008

Main street ‘flying the flag’ for student designs

The creativity of local students from Buller High School is behind the design of Westport’s bright new streetflags due to go up this week.

Four students from Buller High’s Level 2 Graphics class participated in the E4E (Education for Enterprise) project. E4E aims to create community partnerships that provide dynamic learning projects for students.

The Buller District Council provided the students with a brief to produce designs for selection for the 2008 and 2009 Westport streetflags. The brief was in keeping with the recent streetscape improvements and focused on the key points identified by the streetscape working group of our native landscape, our heritage, strong sense of identity and lifestyle.

The students met with two of the Councillors involved in the streetscape project, Kathryn Bainbridge and Lynley Roberts. They took the opportunity to question them on aspects of the brief and the streetscape project.

“This was a great opportunity for us to tap into more of our stunning local talent for the streetscape upgrade project,” says Chair of the Streetscape working group, Lynley Roberts. “We were thrilled at how quickly the students picked up on what we were trying to achieve and how creatively they thought about their designs.”

The students each provided independent designs, which were reviewed by the Councillors and Community Services Team Leader, Lisa Hankey. These designs enabled them to complete their curriculum objectives for level 2 graphics, earning them credits towards their level two certificate. A number of aspects from the designs were chosen, which the students finalized into the final six designs prior to them being sent away for printing for the streetflags.

“The students found the project very rewarding and are looking forward to seeing their work up,” says graphics teacher Bryan Forsyth. “Having an actual client that has a tangible outcome

to produce makes the whole learning process more realistic. The range of learning that takes place with having an actual client is far wider than what can be achieved in a classroom. As a teacher it is a great way to teach because I find I am learning new skills as well. The positive relationships that build between the school and community partners can have great benefit to the school and community and are often ongoing. We embarked on this type of learning through E4E three years ago and we are still maintaining links with groups we worked with.”

Eighty flags have been ordered which will last for the next two summer seasons. The flags and lights are due to go up in Westport’s main street this week.

E4E is an Education for Enterprise programme jointly funded by Development West Coast, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise and is supported by The Ministry of Education. E4E aims to foster the growth of enterprising skills and attributes in West Coast students.

ENDS



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Photos attached; Westport’s new streetflag designs, and participants, from left to right; Bryan Forsyth (Graphics Teacher), Grace Fairhall, Lynley Roberts (Chair of Streetscape Committee), Shay Williams, Claye Barry, and Jayden Cockfield.