



MEDIA RELEASE

August 2012

Shaping Lives With Stories

The Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) will launch Indigenous Literacy Day at Wesley College's Glen Waverley campus, Wednesday 5 September.

Students from Years 5-9 will learn about the ILF's work in raising literacy levels and improving the lives and opportunities of Indigenous children living in remote and isolated regions.

Aunty Joy Murphy Wandin AO (known as "Aunty Joy"), a prominent Indigenous Australian, who has been actively involved in Aboriginal issues for more than 30 years, will welcome the students and talk about how stories have shaped her life.

Special guests and the Foundation's ambassadors Kaz Cooke and Felix Riebl, who have traveled out to remote communities with the Foundation, will also speak to the students about their stories and the opportunities that they have had in their careers.

Kaz Cooke is a former news journalist, but is best-known as an author whose books have entertained two generations of Australian women. Felix Riebl is an Australian singer-songwriter and percussionist, who has achieved success as one of the lead vocalists from *The Cat Empire*.

Wesley College is one of the Foundation's key school supports and the college's student advocacy group, Wesmob, will make a special presentation on the day. Wesmob work to raise awareness about Indigenous issues, rights and welfare. The donated money will go towards the purchase and supply of culturally appropriate books and literacy resources for over 200 remote communities around Australia.

Only one in five children living in a remote Indigenous community can read or write to the accepted minimum level. Less than 36% of people living in a remote community have access to a library.

"The statistics are shocking and we need to level the playing field so that all Australian children have equal opportunities," Kristin Gill, Board Director of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation said.

Date: Wednesday 5 September 2012
Time: 11.30am – 12.25pm
Venue: Cato Hall, Wesley College
620 High Street Road, Glen Waverley

For more information please contact Dennis Freeman or Kristin Gill, Indigenous Literacy Foundation Board member.

Contact: Dennis Freeman, Head of Marketing and Communication
Wesley College, Melbourne

Phone: 0419 551 655

Email: dennis.freeman@wesleycollege.net

For more information on the ILF visit: www.indigenoussliteracyfoundation.org.au

