



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SYDNEY 2000

**Message from Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales**

I applaud the willingness of our communities to embrace the celebration of World Kindness Week, through the appointment of Goodwill Ambassadors from the classroom to the boardroom and within our corridors of government.

This campaign will observe leaders in Government, Businesses, Community Groups, Teachers, Parents and most importantly, Students, willing to do more than just speak about the issues which can undermine the fabric of our society. Indeed, collaboration across the community, working together to raise awareness of the important role which kindness plays in our schools, will truly demonstrate a whole village taking responsibility in raising a child.

Fair play and a sense of justice is at the very heart of Australian values. Within a very short period of time, this campaign has already succeeded in gaining recognition by other nations. As a result, Australia has received an invitation to lead the international peak body, The World Kindness Movement; an acknowledgement which deserves our support.

Taking one week each year to celebrate and to acknowledge the efforts of so many people who display kindness in action every day, is important. It bridges the divide and allows us to recognise what we all value most, the ultimate well being of our children.

If the success of this campaign is measured by the difference it makes to the spirit of a community, school, home, or a child, it is well on the way to achieving its goals. Children will learn that it sometimes takes courage to be kind. World Kindness Week promotes a quality often taken for granted and hopefully it will ensure that this nation's children will be the ones to gently remind us that its "Cool To Be Kind".

I support all of us to continue to build upon the foundations that the Goodwill Ambassadors have laid this year, encouraging our future generations to take a leadership role in making our world a little kinder.

Professor Marie R Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales