



GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL®
EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

Friday 6 September 2019

White Balloon Day

For the second successive year, the School recognised White Balloon Day, which is Australia's largest campaign dedicated to preventing child sexual abuse. The white balloon acts as a symbol of hope for survivors of child sexual abuse and encourages them to break the silence by speaking out. It was adopted by Bravehearts in 1996 to raise awareness of child sexual abuse. As Australia's leading child protection organisation, Bravehearts uses White Balloon Day to encourage communities like Geelong Grammar School to break the silence on child sexual abuse and renew our commitment to child safety.

The School marked out a white balloon on Perry Oval at our Corio Campus, whilst our Timbertop students fashioned their own version in the snow. Our Principal, Rebecca Cody, led a small ceremony at Corio to recognise White Balloon Day and reinforce the School's approach to child safety and healing the harms of child sexual abuse.

"I remain steadfast that the School must acknowledge and learn from the hurt inflicted upon innocent children in the past," Rebecca said. "We can only move forward if we recognise the devastating effects of childhood sexual abuse, keep sight of the learnings as to how such depravity was enabled, and by doing all we can to prevent such trauma ever being repeated."

For further information about the School's approach to child safety and healing historical harm, please visit: www.ggs.vic.edu.au/School/Our-School/healing-historical-harm

For further information about Bravehearts, please visit: <https://bravehearts.org.au/>

Principal's Study

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