



Operation Cleft Australia provides free cleft repair surgery for underprivileged children born with a cleft lip or palate in Bangladesh. Without this reconstructive surgery the children remain illiterate as they are not allowed to attend school.

School Fun^d raising



"The response from students and staff was fantastic", said Dr Intha Chetty, Coordinator of Bentleigh Secondary College's literacy program. "We raised enough to change the lives of 10 children in Bangladesh"



Operation Cleft is an international humanitarian project of the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central Inc (District 9810)



Community partnerships

There are many benefits to students and teachers who partner up with an organisation like Operation Cleft to raise funds and awareness:

- Students, parents and teachers learn about Rotary and the wonderful work they do in both local and international communities.
- Students learn about Bangladesh; A developing nation, thought to be one of the most overpopulated and poorest countries in the world.
- Students make a real contribution to improving the health and educational opportunities of young underprivileged children in a third world country.

After their very successful Spellathon Bentleigh West Primary School Principal said:

“We embrace this project as it is an excellent opportunity for the whole school to put our value of care into practise. Part of enriching a school is developing community partnerships and this has been a true community effort”.



Kids Helping Kids



Liam and Amanda - selling fruit from their parents tree out the front of their home in the Blue Mountains NSW

Students from Moorabbin Primary School after their very successful Spellathon



Bella - from Crows Nest in NSW selling Proteas out the front of her home

Children dressed in national Bengali costume, dance at the multicultural dinner put on by the Rotary Club of Unley, South Australia



There are many ways in which children of all ages can get involved with Operation Cleft. Not only will they be changing lives in Bangladesh but working towards helping others will help develop their own compassion and values. By involving children in a project like Operation Cleft, that benefits other kids their own age, children develop as selfless, empathic and caring individuals.

Why Bangladesh?



- ❖ Bangladesh is considered one of the most densely populated and poorest countries in the world.
- ❖ The cost of cleft repair surgery is not covered under Bangladesh's public healthcare system because the condition is not considered life threatening.
- ❖ Most Bangladeshi children who have an untreated cleft never go to school because they are ostracised and discouraged by a school system that is not equipped to handle children with special needs

Most children with an untreated cleft face a lifetime of social isolation, illiteracy, severe depression, malnutrition and ear, nose and throat infections.

The changing faces of



These photos, taken before and after surgery, show what a remarkable difference Operation Cleft makes.

In the words of one of our surgical team, “. Operation Cleft has made it possible for Habiba to be transformed from an ugly to a beautiful child, from a rejected to an accepted child, from fear and stress to a peaceful child. Operation Cleft has given her an opportunity for a normal life.” *sic*

Fundraising ideas

School Fair/Fete

Allocate a table for Operation Cleft at your next school fair. Ask students, parents, local retailers/businesses to donate goods to sell.

Mufti/Free dress Day

All students pay a gold coin donation in order to come along to school for the day in clothes other than their uniform

Boot Sale

Many parents would be glad to have a clean out. Rather than have a garage sale have them pack their goodies in the boot of the car and drive to the school grounds on a nominated day. Put up flyers or place an ad in the local paper with details and directions. Don't forget to tell your customers that all proceeds will be helping to give a child in Bangladesh "a smile". This is also a great opportunity to get your local butcher or supermarket involved with a sausage sizzle for those hungry shoppers.

ID the baby

Have each of the teachers and/or students bring along a photo of themselves as a baby. Source some nice little prizes from your local retailers and charge a gold coin entry fee. Place all photos (numbered) on a display board for one week and have students managing the competition before and after school and at recess. Make up some entry forms on which to write the photo number and persons name for students, parents and teachers to fill out. Everyone pays a gold coin to enter, and the one who gets the most names correct, wins. There may also be a prize for the photo that gained the most entries and the one that no-one guessed correctly.

Walkathon / Rally

Arrange a day out for students to the local park. Make up sheets (as in a car rally) to test the students power of observation. Along the way students must either identify points of interest on their sheet or collect items listed. Perhaps have a picnic lunch in the park before returning to school. Students seek sponsorship from family and friends for how many of the listed tasks they get correct. (This may also be conducted in your own school grounds.)

Spellathons

A very popular way of raising funds, awareness, literacy skills and of course a sense of achievement. (see over for details).

Spellathon – Cloze test

For junior schools - grades prep to 6



Developed by Operation Cleft in conjunction with Judie Bulluss, Smart Starters, (writers of the Smart Start with PMP and Smart Words Programs).
What is a Cloze test - From Wikipedia.



*A **cloze test** (also **cloze deletion test**) is an exercise, test, or assessment consisting of a portion of text with certain words removed, where the participant is asked to replace the missing words. Cloze tests require the ability to understand context and vocabulary in order to identify the correct words, letters or type of words that belong in the deleted passages of a text. This exercise is commonly administered for the assessment of native and second language learning and instruction. The word cloze derives from closure in Gestalt theory. The exercise was first described by W.L. Taylor in 1953.*



The Operation Cleft Spellathon is a great way for schools to develop community partnerships and for students to:

- 🍌 Learn about life in a developing country
- 🍌 Learn about Rotary, one of the world's biggest community organisations
- 🍌 Hone their spelling skills
- 🍌 Contribute to improving the lives of underprivileged children

Spellathon – Paideia method

For senior schools - Years 7 - 12

Note: All words used in the development of this Spellathon come from the Paideia Word list

"Paideia" is a Greek word that relates to the upbringing of a child and conveys the concept of a child's total education - intellectual, artistic, emotional, physical and social. It is a democratic approach to teaching and learning that seeks to equip young people with all the social skills and knowledge they need to become caring and active citizens of the world. The Paideia philosophy is founded on one essential principle - that the same course of basic schooling should be provided to all students. This objective is based on the premise that what is common to all human beings is more fundamental than the ways in which they differ.

- **Students at all levels will be tested on 50 words derived from the Paideia word list. Students will be provided with a list of 35 of these words to study. The remaining 15 words have been selected at random and students will have no prior knowledge of these words.**
- A card displaying 35 words will be prepared for participating students in each year level.
- A card displaying these same 35 words plus another 15 words will be prepared for participating teachers in each year level.
- Students will be given a copy of the “word card” in advance of the Spellathon to enable them to study the words on which they will be tested.

 **Spellathon - Year 7** 

abrupt, criticize, gauge, mammal, plethora, thoroughbred, accede, cuddle, genuine, siege, policeman, throughout, accelerate, culprit, graduate, manuscript, potato, tornado, accidentally, cylinder, grocery, massive, prairie, triangle, accompanied, deceive, grovel, materialism, predecessor, turmoil, accost, dehydration, guild, menthol, presage

Students will be tested on fifty year level appropriate words selected from the Paideia spellathon word list. Thirty-five of those words are listed above. The other fifteen words will be randomly selected by your teacher

 **Spellathon - Year 9**
Teachers word list 

adjournment, hematite, admonish, oscillation, adolescence, idiosyncratic, adonize, suffragette, adversary, trousseau, aeronautic, trichotomy, aerosol, hors d'oeuvres, affidavit, chablis, affinity, eugenics, agate, aggregate, chamois, agnostic, anschluss, alias, celestial, alibi, narcissus, alkaline, blitzkrieg, alfalfa, eustachian, alabaster, serotonin, alchemy, extemporaneous, alpaca, ambiguity, altarpiece, acrimonious, amalgam, ambrosia, apathy, antagonism, amnesty, altruism, amorphous, amphibious, asinine, axiom, aerodynamic

Students will be tested on a total of fifty year level appropriate words selected from the Paideia spellathon word list. Students have been given a list of thirty-five words printed above in red. The other fifteen words (printed black) are unseen by students and have been randomly selected from the same Paideia spellathon word list to complete the test.

An ideal time to run an Operation Cleft Spellathon is during National Literacy and Numeracy Week held each year around **August or September. 2014 dates are yet tbc by the Government. For updates go to <http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au>**

Students of all ages

After hearing an Operation Cleft speaker, Susan Morrison, a Lecturer at the James Cook University in Townsville became a member of the local Rotary Club at Thuringowa Central.

Susan was very taken by Operation Cleft and the amazing work being done with the children. Not only do we provide cleft repair surgery but we also assist in the development of speech and language therapy as a post cleft palate repair service.

Susan subsequently became an official Operation Cleft Ambassador in District 9550 and encouraged her Speech Pathology students from the university to get involved with the Operation Cleft/Rotary Market Day stall.

The students came up with the idea of making T shirts that said... "Speech Pathology. We have ways to make you talk.". All proceeds were donated to Operation Cleft.



Students of all ages work in many different ways to raise the funds needed to give a child in Bangladesh a

"Smile for Life"

PS - It's a great way for Interact Clubs to take "international action"



CHANGING LIVES IN BANGLADESH

Operation Cleft Australia Foundation Trust
ABN 36 063 471 446
A Public Ancillary Fund with DGR status

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An international humanitarian project
of the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central Inc.
District 9810 Australia

