

# Girls out in force for Clean Up Australia Day

*Over eighty Meriden students recently spent their lunchtime helping to clean up Strathfield ahead of Clean Up Australia Day. Armed with rubbish bags and gloves, the Senior School girls worked in teams to pick up litter in the local community. Green Team Captains, Nidhi Nellore and Lucy Jung, share their experience with the School community in the following report.*

Clean up Australia Day is an annual event that encourages communities to clean up their local areas and help preserve the environment. This year, over eighty Meriden students and fourteen staff worked in groups to help clean up Strathfield. We were surprised by how much rubbish we collected, with several groups filling up their bags with rubbish.

Participating in Clean Up Australia Day caused us to consider the impact of rubbish tossed away incorrectly. Rubbish, especially plastic, is detrimental to wildlife. It causes damage to waterways and pollutes stormwater drainage systems before being washed into the ocean, where it causes further harm to marine life.

Clean Up Australia Day was an opportunity to take an active role in the community and help protect the environment from further harm. It was an educational day that taught us more about sustainability and the impact our actions can have on the environment.

