

Peace model

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THREE Year 7 students from Good News Lutheran School have won a finals spot in the annual Wakakirri National Story Festival competition, in spite of competing against much older secondary school entrants.

Tess McBryde, Katie Wheatley and Emma Morcombe created a five-minute "claymation" film called *Peace Should Be A Tradition* during the school's senior enrichment project for Year 6 and 7 students.

With Wakakirri, students from Australian schools are invited each year to create stories using one of six styles including dance, song, story-telling, writing and film.

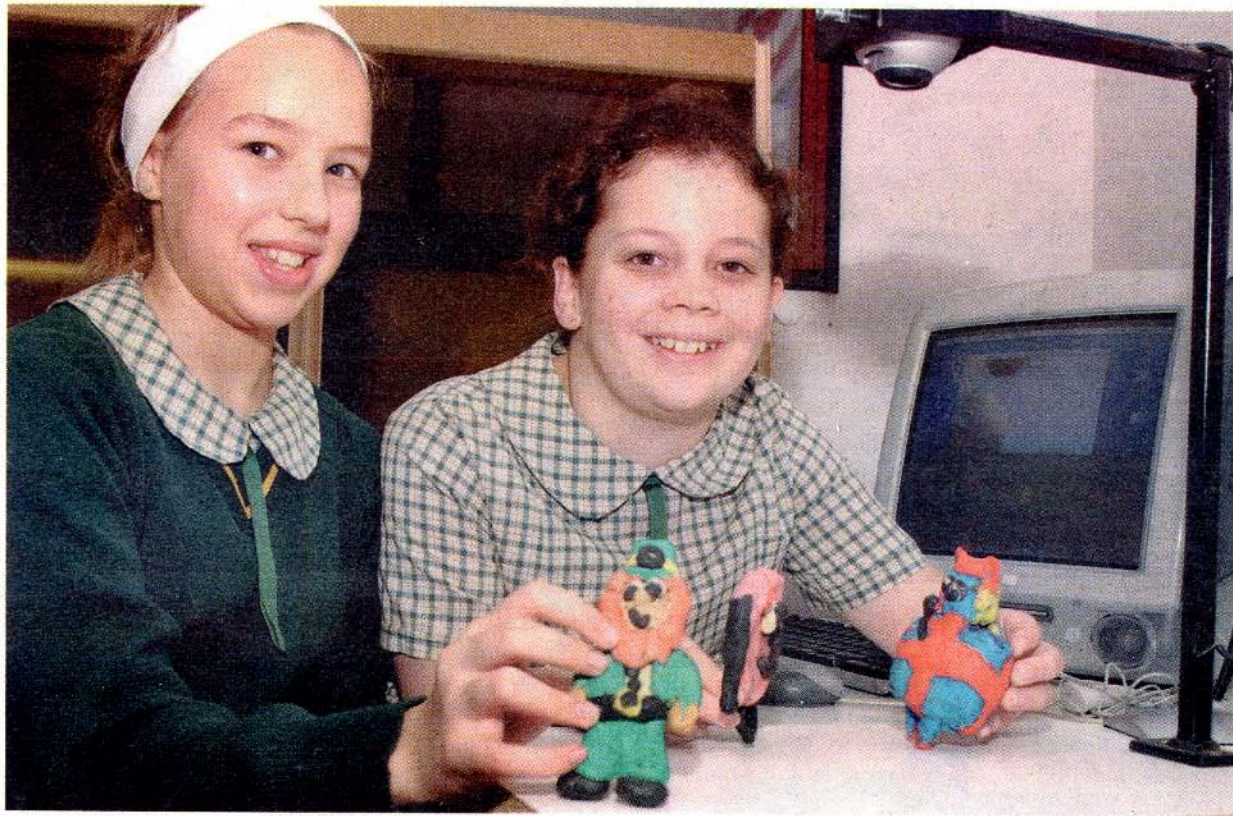
This is the first time the Middle Park school has entered the competition and, according to their teacher Andrew Robitaille, the students embraced the idea with great enthusiasm.

"Each group had to choose a topic related to peace, which is this year's school moral topic," he said.

"Students were allocated an hour each Tuesday to work on their project."

Mr Robitaille said the winning girls' group put extra time and effort into their film, sometimes working through lunch breaks and staying back after school to ensure their project was finished in time.

Their film involved the making of clay models representing different



Katie Wheatley (left) and Tess McBryde show some of the clay models used in their prize-winning story-film.

Photo: Desleigh Daniel SE0806DM

religious and cultural calendar events, to tell the story with word and song.

The models were positioned and photographed over and over to create the stop-frame animation. All of the girls contributed to the filming, editing and voice-overs.

"It's about working together to achieve peace," Katie said.

"We took over 1400 still pictures to come up with the final piece.

"It was time-consuming because we had nine characters and every syllable was a mouth movement."

The girls are very proud to be

named as state finalists.

"I feel important" said Tess. "Most kids just do school work, but we're in this big competition and it's so exciting."

The film can be viewed through the school's website www.ekids.net.au.