



12<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Dear Friends of Rotary Club – Warrnambool East,

You were all very much in our thoughts last Friday - (8<sup>th</sup> March 2013) – as we had the Official Opening of the Computer Room at Thanh Tri Primary School – Tien Giang Province – about two hours drives from Ho Chi Minh City. The Loreto Team so proudly displayed the plaque honoring and celebrating YOUR Rotary Club for such important and appreciated support for these rural kids in giving them entrée into the world of information technology.

After some speeches from the local Education Department and the Principal – particularly thanking YOU all for your generous outreach to them – we had the ribbon cutting ritual and then – the kids came into the new room!!!! It was obvious within the first 20 minutes that these children (two to one computer) – had NEVER seen or touched a keyboard (they didn't even know where to find it) – nor had they been in front of a desktop – nor accessed Word Document – nor entered the internet. The Loreto Team and teachers guided them with starting steps and it was like turning on a light bulb of a million kilowatts!! The kids immediately became surprised, excited and astonished as they moved from one small achievement to another! No doubt when we return there in some weeks' time – they will have reached graduation point in I.T.!

Your wonderful funding – dear friends – comprised: 16 desktops, computer desks and benches, 2 air-conditioners (to protect the computers) curtains for the windows and the control system for the I.T. teacher.

But - above all – your superb generosity has opened up a whole new world of learning for these rural, disadvantaged kids – that is immeasurable! All areas of their curriculum will be enhanced and futuristically they have every measure now to move towards a more successful and professional life..... So many of their families are employed in very basic – and even unproductive – agriculture, most of them earning a pitiful five dollars a day.

On behalf of the Loreto Vietnam-Australia Program I extend our deepest and most sincere gratitude for your outreach, thoughtfulness and altruistic vision for the kids of Vietnam. In the next week or so, we will forward to you all a flier depicting a colorful

kaleidoscope of more photos – along with a Letter of Gratitude from the principal of Thanh Tri Primary School. With the Loreto Program you are also now excelling in:

*“lifting learners into the future”.*

Warm Wishes to you all – and your families,



TRISH FRANKLIN: CEO: LORETO Vietnam-Australia PROGRAM

