



THINKING HARD: Galen Catholic College year 10 students (from left) Imogen Quilty, Madalynn Baumanis and Chloe Hutchinson (pictured), and Emma Gillies worked hard in preparation for their presentation at the North East School Environment Day. PHOTOS: Emma Hillier

Students' insight into environment

VIRTUAL reality headsets helped a team of year 10 students share information about palm oil and sustainability.

Imogen Quilty, Madalynn Baumanis, Chloe Hutchinson and Emma Gillies from Galen Catholic College conducted a presentation at the North East School Environment Day, held at the HP Barr Reserve last Tuesday.

The girls spent about a month preparing for the day, including brainstorming ways to engage the grade five students during their four 30 minute sessions.

A Google Expedition headset was available to the students so they decided to incorporate that into their presentation.

The primary school stu-



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dents were able to go on virtual tours of rainforests, deforested areas and supermarkets to learn more about what products contain palm oil.

The group also conducted a guessing game, where their audience would guess whether products including Tim Tams and Nutella used palm oil and whether it was sourced sustainably.

"We met up during school hours and out of school to research and find information for the presentation," Madalynn said.

"It was a really good op-

portunity for us to test our knowledge and to really work on our skills, particularly public speaking."

Jonas Anderberg, Galen maths and science teacher, collaborated with the girls to help them develop their ideas and prepare for the presentation.

"The girls did an absolutely fantastic job," he said.

"It was a bit of a groundhog day for them as they had to repeat the presentation four times but they nailed it.

"They really engaged the children and I could see they were having fun and they developed during the day."

The group said they thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity and seeing the children ask more questions as their curiosity grew.



STUDENTS BECOME THE TEACHERS: Madalynn Baumanis, Chloe Hutchinson and Emma Gillies engaged the grade five students during their session discussing the dangers of palm oil production.

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