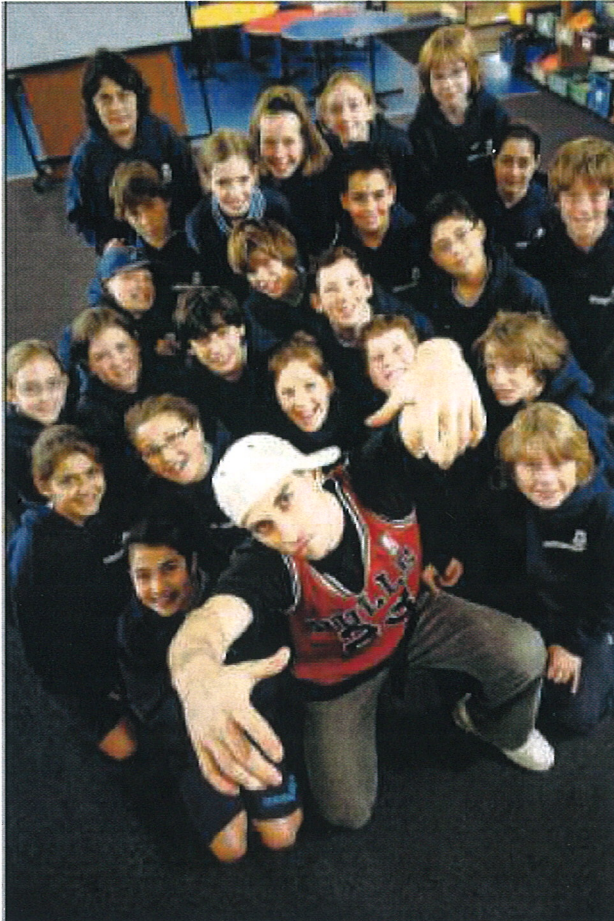




Writing off graffiti



Graffiti Awareness Education Program actor and educator Nathan Diaz, in character as graffiti artist "Zed", with Gardenvale Primary students. N49SB206

GARDENVALE Primary School students have been treated to a colourful performance about giving graffiti the brush-off.

The performance was part of the Bayside Council's Graffiti Awareness Education Program, which involves an actor visiting schools and showing students what can happen to someone involved in graffiti vandalism.

Bayside Youth Advisory Group member Councillor Terry O'Brien said 100 per cent of the municipality's primary and secondary schools were participating in the program.

"The students attending the program are given strategies to help them deal with peer pressure, and to encourage them to look for more rewarding activities with their mates," Cr O'Brien said.

"The program is fun and informative and has been successful in reducing graffiti vandalism in other areas."

The program, developed by the Warner Group, is funded by the council and by the Federal Government's National Community Crime Prevention Programme.

Details: Bayside Council on 9599 4444, Warner Group on 9555 9100