Mud, sweat and cheers perfect end to the year

NEARLY 800 children at Leopold Primary School got down and dirty at their Mini Mudda event last Friday. Based on the gruelling adventure sport known as Tough Mudda, Leopold’s event was less daunting but enormous fun and resulted in more than 3000km being covered during the day, organiser Andy Hair said.

“A large body of staff and parents assisted in the build process that involved seven obstacles, which included a slippery slide, army crawl net and tyre run, giant slide, tunnels and crawl nets, knee-high swimming pools and the almighty mud pit,” he said.

“About 780 students rotated throughout the day and participated in a 40-minute Mini Mudda Endurathon, in which they were free to do as many laps as possible.”

Hair said older children ran in groups or ran alone, while the younger children were accompanied by their buddies.

“They performed Superman dives on the slip and slide while being soaked by hoses, they went down low on the army crawl nets, slid through the tunnels and splashed and belly-flopped their way through the baby pools,” he said.

“However the largest crowds of the day were always focused around the mud pit, which provided lots of laughter and entertainment as students in many grades were joined by their teachers who let their hair down for the day and acted like big kids, often finding themselves muddier and wetter than their students.”

When teachers and parents took on the course at lunchtime, it was time for the children to get the last laugh.

“They took on the course in a two-lap all-out sprint,” Hair said.

“Up for grabs were bragging rights as to who was the fastest mudga of the year and a specially crafted trophy representing power and strength.”

Hair said Hayden Marshall proved the best male teacher and Narelle Foster was the best female teacher of the day.

“This event was a major fundraiser for the school and the parent association led by Alison Merrett was instrumental in supporting myself to build this unique event that saw 500 family members join their children at school during the day,” Hair said.

“In all the students ran more than 3000km across the day and raised a great deal of money which will be used to support student learning across the school.”

The success was evident with many students wanting a firm date for the 2015 event.

WORDS: ALISON APRYHS
PICTURES: PETER RISTEVSKI

Supporting junior sport and building a healthier community