



Helen had the opportunity to present to different groups of school students about the goals of the Lotus Educational Fund.



Approximately 100 Grade 9 students at Wangaratta High School attended the presentation in December 2014 focusing on the Lotus Educational Fund and the inequality of education in Laos.

Only 43% of girls attend Primary School.  
Only 37% of girls attend Secondary School.  
Only 17% of girls attend University.

The Secondary Principal at Vientiane International School, Laos invited Helen to present to the Year 12 students on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> and the Year 9 students on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. The focus of these presentations was about going out into the world and having a positive impact on people's lives. We are all in the situation to offer support to others to help improve their lives.

Lotus has been running since 2008 and concentrates on supporting Lao girls to enter school at Grade 1 and continue their primary and secondary education. This is a key factor in bringing people and their country out of poverty.



Malala Yousafzai :  
One child, one  
Teacher, one Pen  
and one Book can  
change the World.

The Grade 5 teachers and students invited Helen to join their class on 17<sup>th</sup> Feb as one of several guest speakers. This was a tuning in learning experience to their PYP Exhibition with the central idea ‘Taking ownership of learning empowers us to confront challenges’

During the Gr 5 presentation there were several challenges for the students to overcome either individually or collaboratively.

The students concluded by reflecting on the challenges that the Lotus girls and their parents have overcome and continue to face each day.

**Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world. Nelson Mandela**