Challenging and motivating

Two of the Max Potential youth leaders are working together to achieve the best results for their community projects.

Mikah Gibson and Felicity Paulson are working with primary school children in the afternoon to offer literacy tutoring and sports activities.

Mikah decided to use the after school homework centre set up at Chatham High School to help tutor younger students for his community project. "I thought it would be good to help some of the kids in year six because they're making the big transition to high school next year," he said. "With the help of the other tutors we do reading and help with their homework, it's been really good."

Mikah has been helped by fellow Max Potential participant, Felicity Paulson who has been tutoring with the homework centre before she takes groups of kids outside for some activities and games.

Max Potential program

Year 11 students from various schools around the Manning are in the process of realising their Max Potential.

The Manning Valley's inaugural Max Potential program culminates today in a showcase at Club Taree where all participants will come together and present their individual projects. The Max Potential program offers 22 weeks of personal leadership development and coaching, to help the young leaders maximise their potential.

Felicity has been helped throughout the 22 weeks by her coach, Felicity Lieberman, while Mikah is coached by Simon Brown.

Both agreed it's been a great way to help them get motivated about their own homework and has helped to make them more focused on their school work. "It is challenging," says Felicity. "But it's worth it, we've had heaps of fun working with the kids."

A message about body image

As a teenage girl, Chanteille Mobbs knows the struggles and issues young women deal with when it comes to their looks, self-confidence and personal opinions.

So when she decided to take part in the Max Potential youth leadership program, Chanteille (pictured) decided that she would help other young people with her community project.

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Workshop to help girls

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‘Beauty Within’ is a workshop organised by the year 11 student from Chatham High School, aimed at helping young girls realise that “it’s what’s on the inside that counts.”

“I thought it was important to speak with girls in years 7 and 8 because they’re the ones who are most critical of themselves and they’re in a transitional period,” says Chanteille.

With the help of her two coaches, Megan Guy and Di Greaves, Chanteille organised her workshop and was motivated to approach young girls at her school.

“It’s been a bit stressful with the organisation and wondering how the girls would respond,” she says. “But it’s worth it in the end, I think it will really help them.”