

At the last Dharma Club the children and parents made a peace mandala. Grace Molloy shares her experience and insight.

### Peace Mandala, Young and Full of Wisdom, by Grace Molloy (aged 13)

The wonderful thoughts of peace, compassion and friendship filled the room. The children were becoming excited about making a peace mandala and putting the lovely splashes of color onto the mandala diagram that was drawn on the sheet. The first three kids sprinted to the hall, then stopped suddenly in awe at the bright colors. Pink pebbles symbolized love, orange symbolized compassion and green symbolized wisdom. The children spread the wondrous colors on the mat as they sat in silence thinking about the colors and their meaning.

As the colors spread out further and further the kid's eyes shone at what they had created. It was beautiful. The different colored jewels glistened and the saffron colored rice seemed to 'pop out' in the afternoon sun. It was a magnificent sight!

As everyone was putting on the finishing touches, they were just amazed at what they had created. The room was filled

with a great atmosphere and was filled with joy.

This creation brought families and friends together and reminded



us that we have to spread the peace and love to everyone.

The older group held hands around the mandala while beating a drum and saying prayers to protect their creation and each other. The younger group wore colorful, scary masks and danced around making lots of noise to scare away all the bad and negative spirits.

We got lots of positive feedback from doing this activity, as well as having a great time!



Dan, 4 years old, was asked why he came to Dharma Club. He said, "If someone takes away your happy mind, you can get it back."