



Channel 9's newsreader Peter Overton was given a hero's welcome as his helicopter landed on Mater Dei's oval on a sparkling winter's day in June. Mater Dei was chosen for the visit as a result of the Macarthur Chronicle's Inspire campaign. The entire school community was there waving in the chopper and many diligent staff were on high alert ... discretely closing the helicopter's doors as aspiring pilots saw an opportunity.

"This is one of the most enjoyable parts of my job, to come to schools like this and let them ask me questions," Peter said. Joseph

IS IT SCARY READING THE NEWS?

asked Peter if he watched the news. Peter hesitated a fraction and said wisely "I watch it as I read it." That took quite a deal of explaining. Another question was: "Do you get sad when you read sad news?" He said he got very sad when it was about children. "What is your favourite footy team"? He said: "The Dragons" and everyone cheered, "Tigers" they cheered again, "Panthers" more cheers etc. When Kate asked if it was scary reading the news, Peter said it sometimes was, but nerves produce better results. BUT ... perhaps the best question was from Joel who asked: "Peter when you read the news tonight will you ask everyone if they could look for James Fitzpatrick's school case. He wants it back ... big time."

As Peter and his film crew choppered up into the skies remembering the students' earnest farewell, he might have wondered about the school case question ... but thankfully it was found in the nick of time before the 6 o'clock News!

Jeanie Heininger sgs

For more pictures of Peter's visit take a look at our gallery at www.materdei.org.au