Our Caritas journey began back in March when Megan from Caritas came to our school, St Thomas More in Hadfield. She taught us about social justice issues that exist in our world and raised challenges that the Caritas organisation faces in order to provide aid for the disadvantaged.

This is when a group of year 5 and 6 students created a Social Justice Action Team. We (Natasha, Olivia, Vinnie, Tass, Nina, Kasey, Amelia and Aaron) came together and came up with a plan to help the people that were in need. After brainstorming multiple ideas, most of which we found unsuccessful, we came to the conclusion that we needed to do what we could to help the people in need in Nepal. A massive earthquake had just occurred there leaving thousands of people homeless, wounded and even dead. Our plan was to raise as much money as we could for the Caritas foundation so that it be given to the people who needed aid in Nepal.

A garage sale was the answer! We displayed flyers around the school, spoke at assemblies and sent notes home in the newsletter asking for families to donate good condition second hand items. We worked through our lunch breaks creating the posters, printing things, writing plans and sorting all of the donations that we had been given. We had to price these items and categorise them based on their new price. We even contacted Megan on a few occasions for a helping hand. She provided us with some special Caritas t-shirts, aprons and caps so we could wear it on the day of sales. Our garage sale went over three days, selling second hand goods to students of our school at first break, second break and even after school to some interested parents. The money kept flowing and the donations were flying out the door.

The most amazing part of this experience was the end result...counting all of the money raised. We are privileged that St Thomas More Primary School in Hadfield, Victoria, raised a massive $1000.00 for Caritas Australia. We loved this experience and are so proud of what we, and our whole school community have achieved. We would like to thank our school students, teachers and community for their support,
as well as Megan from Caritas Australia for inspiring us and helping us to develop our own Social Justice Action Team.