

When HIPPY spells so very happy

THE Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters [HIPPY] program in Claymore had its first class graduate from its program last month.

The children and their parents had completed the 60-week program over two years.

The graduation ceremony was held at Claymore Neighbourhood Centre.

The crowd of more than 100 who were there included HIPPY

Australia, Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative staff and NSW Housing.

Co-ordinator Julie Dannevig said it was an enjoyable day.

"The children looked wonderful in their graduation gowns and caps and were presented with a graduation certificate and folder which had all their work samples collected throughout the program," she said.

"Congratulations again to all

the HIPPY children and parents."

The program aims to promote social inclusion and school participation and offers parents support for employment and community leadership.

HIPPY is funded by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations through the Brotherhood of St Laurence.

The program is recruiting now for 2011. For information, call 4627 1188.