



27 August 2012

## MEDIA RELEASE

### South East Queensland marks Child Protection Week (2-8 Sep) with special events around the region

Schools, police, families, the child protection sector and children will participate in dozens of special events around SEQ this week using creative and fun ways to talk about keeping children and young people safe.

Queensland Child Protection Week Committee Chair, Kelly Bucknall, said the committee supported activities in Brisbane to stimulate community engagement and conversations about protection of children and young people.

“Most of the events are organised by adults, but Child Protection Week is also about giving children and young people a voice to become empowered to change their world,” Ms Bucknall said.

“The Queensland Child Protection Week Committee has been delighted to see the creative methods our partners are using to talk about how everyone in the community can help keep children and young people stay safe.”

In 2012, the Child Protection Week Committee is supporting the following activities in South East Queensland:

- Around 2000 prep – Year 2 primary school children are expected to take part in ‘Be Brave like Elf’ an educational activity involving Elf the Little Grey Pony which concentrates on protective behaviours at **Harris Fields Primary School, Park Ridge Primary School, Marsden Primary School, Waterford Primary School** and at **Doomben Racecourse**.
- Anglicare will screen ‘Matilda’, a free Father’s Day Movie in the Park at **Chevron Island** and supply free popcorn to celebrate Child Protection Week while raising awareness for the need for foster carers.
- A community breakfast at **Beenleigh State School** featuring guest speaker Assistant Minister for Child Safety Rob Molhoek.
- A free ‘Empowering Children to Stay Safe Awareness Session with light refreshments at **Redland Bay State School**.
- A Remembrance Day ceremony acknowledging the courage of the many people who experienced abuse and neglect in the care of the church and child protection systems at GOMA in **Brisbane**.
- Free Cyber Safety Sessions: information and training sessions on internet and social media for students, teachers, parents and the broader community at Our Lady of Delours school, **Michelton**.
- A Party in the Park with fun activities, food and entertainment provided at Queens Park **Ipswich**.
- A presentation on Cyber Safety called ‘Verbal Combat’ Presentation for Year 7, St Joseph’s **Nudgee** College: a dramatic presentation about spreading rumours through Facebook, text messages and emails. It addresses confidentiality, cyber bullying and being careful when posting photos.

The above are just sample of Child Protection Week activities in 2012. To find out what is happening in your region, details of all the events and activities can be found at: [www.childprotectionweek.org.au/events/events](http://www.childprotectionweek.org.au/events/events)

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Protecting Children is Everybody’s business – play your part

[www.childprotectionweek.org.au](http://www.childprotectionweek.org.au)

[www.playyourpart.org.au](http://www.playyourpart.org.au)

Child Protection Week Queensland gratefully acknowledges the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services and our sponsors for supporting Child Protection Week 2012.

