## **Media Release**

The Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Children
Minister for Disability



Monday, 21 October 2024

## FREE FAMILY FUN FOR CHILDREN'S WEEK 2024

The Allan Labor Government is helping local communities celebrate Children's Week with hundreds of fun and educational activities and events across Victoria.

Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn today visited the Richmond Community Learning Centre to celebrate more than 200 recipients of grants delivering Children's Week activities.

Councils and not-for-profit organisations will share in more than \$180,000 to deliver a wide range of exciting activities to families across Victoria including music and dance workshops, cooking sessions, arts and crafts, outdoor games, performances, gardening, exhibitions, storytelling, and local fairs.

Running from October 19 to 27, Children's Week 2024 will engage thousands of young Victorians in activities organised by early childhood services, community groups, cultural organisations, libraries, and local councils. The theme for this year's Children's Week focuses on kids' right to a clean and safe environment.

- Yarra Ranges Council will run a program at Monbulk Creek that teaches kids about the local platypus habitat, hunting for water bugs and playing games to highlight waterway conservation.
- Richmond Community Learning Centre will offer activities where kids can feed chickens, plant seedlings, and learn about hygiene, growing food and caring for animals.
- Cheltenham Panthers Netball Club will host a family day where children can challenge their parents to a netball match, with professional umpires, a sausage sizzle and entertainment.

The annual national campaign celebrates the right of children to enjoy childhood, showcasing their talents, skills, achievements and rights while providing educational experiences for them and their families.

More than 40,000 children and families took part in Children's Week activities in 2023, with the Labor Government supporting more than 200 community events through grant funding.

Children's Week events are all entirely free for families with children up to 12 years of age, providing an opportunity for Victorian families to come together and enjoy fun, engaging and educational experiences in their communities.

To get involved or find Children's Week 2024 events in your area, visit vic.gov.au/childrens-week.

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn**

"We're supporting Children's Week events right across Victoria – this is a great opportunity to celebrate the achievements of Victoria's children and highlight every child's right to a clean and safe environment."

"We'd love to see as many families as possible head out and take part in our free, fun and educational experiences – with more than 200 events and activities taking place right across Victoria, there's sure to be something for everyone."

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