

MEDIA COVERAGE

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Comment News

Gosnells Community

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THE COWBOY KEEPS ON GIVING

See page 40 for details

MasterChef star dishes up lessons on a platter

STUDENTS at Werabara Primary School in Gosnells were lucky enough to learn a range of culinary skills from Michael Weldon – the 2011 runner-up of the MasterChef cooking program.

He visited the Year 5, 6 and 7 students from the Opportunity Class who had been enjoying a week of cooking challenges.

Teacher Nicole Armstrong said the children were taught about the safety aspects of cooking as well as being introduced to culinary terminology and techniques.

“They were given the opportunity to explore different flavours and experiment with combining these,” Ms Armstrong said.

“Students were also expected to apply their mathematical knowledge when undertaking activities which involved estimating, ratio, fractions, capacity and volume.”

The teacher said literacy skills were also improved because students wrote their own recipes and developed their oral language skills through discussions and questioning sessions.

Younger students and the school’s other teachers also got involved.

Michael Weldon shares his cooking secrets with (from left) Hazel Arellano, Jayden Jones, Cheyenne Visser and teacher Nicole Armstrong. Picture: Marcelo Palacios. www.commentnews.com.au d594454

Childcare debt alarm

By **ALEISHA ORR**

DEBT collectors are chasing local parents for unpaid childcare fees.

Prushka Fast Debt Recovery is pursuing 31 claims against parents across three Gosnells childcare centres.

Chief executive Roger Mendelson said the number of parents with unpaid fees was increasing.

He said the two biggest groups of debtors were single parents and low-income families.

“Some low-income parents are getting into debt even though they’re eligible for a 100 per cent care rebate,” Mr Mendelson said. “In some circumstances rebates are paid directly to a parent’s bank account rather than to the childcare centre and with families under intense financial pressure due to rising costs of living, the rebate sometimes fails to make it to the childcare centre, with parents spending it on other more immediate household bills.”

Byford mother of three Sarah Ivers said her childcare benefits went into her bank account.

This meant there was the chance that the money could be spent on other bills before childcare bills, but she said she always made sure her bills were paid.

Mrs. page 3

■ THE BUSHFIRES ARE OUT, BUT COPING WITH THE AFTERMATH HAS BECOME A NIGHTMARE FOR SOME: **PAGE 5**

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15th October 2011

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O'Brien

For Neerigen Ward

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Security
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