



MEDIA RELEASE

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St Kilda FC make Better Buddies Games a day of fun for students at Seaford Park PS and Belvedere Park PS

For 100 students from Seaford Park Primary School and Belvedere Park Primary School their first Better Buddies Games day was extra special because players from St Kilda Football Club were there helping out with the activities as was Buddy Bear, a giant purple bear.

The students were very excited about the day held at Belvedere Reserve, which will be the new home for the Saints from the 2010 season. The students particularly enjoyed the activities with Buddy Bear and the St Kilda Football Club players. More than 10 activities on the day had a football focus giving the students an opportunity to practice their ball skills with the players.

"The Better Buddies Games Day is really beneficial for our senior and junior students to work together, exercise and have fun. The senior buddies were very excited about the day and helped set up all the activities on the oval." said, Kristy Forsyth, Better Buddies Co-ordinator, Seaford Park Primary School.

Better Buddies Games is an opportunity for school students to participate in non-competitive activities and promote the importance of being active. It is part of The Alannah and Madeline Foundation's highly successful Better Buddies Framework, being introduced to schools across Australia.

The Better Buddies Framework helps to create a safe and caring school community where bullying is reduced through teaching children to be a 'buddy' to each other. Seaford Park PS and Belvedere Park PS have recently become Better Buddies schools thanks to funding from the Jack Brockhoff Foundation.

"It's fun getting to play games with our little buddies. It is good to be a role model where the little buddies can copy the big buddies' good behaviour. The games are fantastic as we get to learn more about our little buddies." said Nicola Boyle, Grade 6, Seaford Park Primary School.

Better Buddies Games activities are designed so all children feel included. Buddy Bear, a giant purple bear, who is the mascot of the Better Buddies Framework, was there to launch the Games. Buddy Bear also took part in the fun activities with the children.

The Better Buddies Framework is in more than 400 schools around Australia. More than 900 schools have taken part in Better Buddies Framework activities. The Framework is helping thousands of children understand the importance of respect, friendliness, caring, including others, valuing difference and responsibility. For further information on the Better Buddies Framework or to make a donation to The Alannah and Madeline Foundation visit www.amf.org.au.

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