



Learning cyber safety

By Rusty Woodger

THE importance of cyber safety was hammered home at Echuca East Primary School last week.

The school was one of hundreds around Australia to take part in the Alannah and Madeline Foundation's National eSmart Week, which aims to show students that while the internet is a great place to learn, be creative and stay connected, it presents many dangers — particularly cyber bullying.

“The reason why this is so important to us is that over the past year Echuca East Primary School has been working towards gaining its eSmart status,” eSmart co-ordinator Sharon van de Zand said.

“This initiative works hand-in-hand with what we have already been doing — educating our children to become resilient, responsible, respectful citizens and inclusive of all cultures which reduce bullying and cyber bullying and increase online safety.”

As part of the initiative, students at the school painted the arts centre purple and yellow, and also took part in a competition to build, draw or digitally design someone who always uses technology correctly and is safe and responsible online.

The winners of this eSmart Hero competition — Grace Hall, Layla Baker, Delaney Laffy and Harper Raverty — were recognised at a school assembly on Friday.

Campaspe library services manager Jenny Mustey was a guest speaker at the assembly and shared her eSmart tips with the students.



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Above: Students listened to presentations on cyber safety on Friday.
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Right: Echuca East Primary School student winners in the eSmart hero design competition (from left) Grace Hall, Layla Baker, Delaney Laffy and Harper Raverty.