

City of Karratha

Karratha Libraries eSmart Week 2016

Summary for Media Release

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation and the Telstra Foundation have recognised the City of Karratha Libraries as an eSmart Library service. Karratha Libraries achieved eSmart status on 14th July 2016 being the second library service in WA and the first regional library in the state. To mark the occasion, Tuesday 6th September was chosen as eSmart Celebration Day for Karratha Libraries and special guests from Telstra were invited to join the celebration, Boyd Brown (Area General Manager WA), Hannah Wells (Community Engagement Specialist WA) and Mark Thompson (Media manager WA). Our guests spoke with seniors, parents who homeschool their children and library staff. To conclude the ceremony the eSmart sign was officially unveiled. To add excitement to the day mascot, Cyber Safe Sam interacted with parents and children after Rhyme-time and with adults in the library. Cyber Safe Sam, was the initiative of the City of Karratha eSmart Libraries Working Group that planned the activities and events for the week.

The City of Karratha presented various activities in their four libraries at Wickham, Dampier, Roebourne and Karratha, to raise awareness of the importance of online security during eSmart Week. A digitised picture of Cyber Safe Sam was used as a colouring competition where children could put an online safety tip in the talking bubble. Twelve tips were placed around the library and on badges given out to the children. A cyber safety quiz for adults was given out to inform about the Office of the Children's Commissioner and eSafety Women, and to survey the interest in future online security talks. Chelsea Lee Smith, a visiting author read her book 'Mason's Greatest Gems' and linked her story to the cyber safe message. The 'Be Deadly Online' videos were shown to children after school.

It was a great week and the response from the public was encouraging.