



11-17 May 2009
The Law and Your
Community



New South Wales Government
Attorney General's Department

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CLUED UP KIDS TO CRACK COURT CASE AT BELMONT

Students from East Lake Macquarie primary schools will play the role of a detective at Belmont Courthouse next Tuesday, when they attempt to solve a case involving a fictitious hit and run incident.

In the lead-up to the event, evidence has been gradually supplied to the students to help them build a case against a suspect.

“According to the evidence, three teenage boys were apprehended while attempting to flee the scene of the hit and run,” said Belmont deputy registrar Catherine Piper.

“Each suspect denies being the driver and the student sleuths will need to sort through witness statements and forensic reports to determine the truth.”

Student investigation teams representing the six schools will each be given 15 minutes to present their case to a panel of experts.

The panel, which includes a retired magistrate, a local solicitor and a police officer, will award a trophy to the team that delivers the best presentation.

“The Year 6 students will be assessed on their ability to weigh up the evidence, identify the offender and prove their case beyond reasonable doubt,” said Mrs Piper.

“Investigation teams will receive extra points if they deliver their findings creatively and we hope to see some dramatisations or multimedia displays.”

The students will also be given the opportunity to ask the panel questions about the law and career options within the profession.

“The event is a great way for students to learn how the legal system works in a fun, stimulating and interactive environment,” Mrs Piper said.

“It will also deliver important road safety messages and demonstrate the consequences of breaking the law.”

The student presentations will be conducted from 9am to 2.30pm on Tuesday, May 5 at Belmont Courthouse, 530 Pacific Highway, Belmont.

The event is linked to National Law Week, which runs from 11-17 May. Law Week aims to promote community understanding of the law and its important role in society. The theme of

Law Week 2009 is 'The Law and Your Community'.

For more information about events visit: www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawweek

Editor's note: The event at Belmont Courthouse is being held prior to Law Week to ensure that it does not clash with students' exams.