



STUDENTS AT PADSTOW NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL ARE KICKING GOALS

Padstow North Public School had a special visitor on Thursday when AFLW GWS GIANTS player Louise Stephenson popped by to test out the new goal posts recently installed on the school oval.

Originally from Melbourne, Stephenson moved to Sydney late last year after being drafted to play for the GIANTS in the inaugural AFLW competition.

A lucky group of students were fortunate to have a skills session with Louise and visiting AFL staff to celebrate the instalment of the new goal posts on the school oval.

Padstow North Public School Principal Natalie Armstrong said the excitement around the new school facilities was shared with both students and the broader school community. "The children are very excited about it, a lot of them do like to play AFL outside of school, and I think it's going to give them the opportunity to play it more inside of school now." Mrs Armstrong said.

"Particularly knowing that they've had players like Louise come in and see that they play in big teams at the highest level."

Mrs Armstrong also commented on the growth in popularity of AFL at the school over the past few years.

"Going from no AFL not so long ago, to AFL clinics within the school to AFL clinics outside of school to having AFL posts installed on the oval, it's been a massive growth for us."

AFL School Ambassador and teacher Robert Grinham has been leading the push for AFL at the school and said interest was continually increasing in both students and other teachers.

"Over the last three years we have been running after school clinics and our numbers are continually growing, so for us the next progression was to put posts in and create more game time." he said.

"I type up and laminate AFL activities for the teachers to run with their classes, so they are also learning the skills along with the kids."

GWS GIANTS player Louise Stephenson said she was impressed with both the skills and enthusiasm of the students and hoped to see more of them donning the orange and charcoal of the GIANTS either as supporters or on the field in the future.

You can see Louise and her GWS GIANTS teammates in action against the Melbourne Demons at Blacktown International Sportspark on March 3. Tickets available from ticketmaster.com.au

Bankstown Bull Sharks home ground is located at Kelso Park (North), Panania. Training for Under 9's to Under 14's runs on Thursdays from 6:00pm-7:00pm. Youth Girls training for Under 15's and Under 18's runs on a Thursday night from 6:00pm-7:15pm. The club would like to invite any interested players to attend FREE COME AND TRY training sessions on Thursday March 2nd, 9th and 16th.

For more information on the club and also how to register contact Sam Zikman at sam.zikman@afl.com.au or visit <http://www.bankstownafl.com.au/>