

## Primary school pupils unite in song over anti-bullying message

# Negative behaviour is not ok

Wendy Kay

TWO local educators have joined with Manly Vale primary school children to produce an anti-bullying song.

Nuala O'Hanlon and Kathryn Radloff, both from Beacon Hill, have used the students from St Kierans for the chorus of *Bully-Free Zone!*

Nuala and Kathryn are partners in Keystone Creations which provides resources to teachers to teach life skills through music and song.

"We decided to write a song about bullying that might hit home with primary school children and help them develop the right attitudes to prevent their taking it on," Nuala said.

"Children remember songs, they identify with the words and the rhythm."

With the launch of Australia's National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence on Friday, Nuala remembers all too clearly how she was bullied as a child.

"I was the migrant who 'spoke funny' and wore funny shoes, excluded from games at recess," she said.

"Education is the key to solving these problems."

"*Bully-Free Zone!* is a perfect child-friendly medium for getting the message out, understood and remembered – that everyone is valued, negative behaviour is not ok and will not be tolerated."

Kathryn said children needed strategies to help them to stand up for what they knew was right.

"Singing together in a safe environment can lay the basis for intercultural understanding and can get students thinking about ethical behaviour," she said. "This, in turn, helps them to challenge their own behaviour. We want to let the children sing their own song to make a difference and we believe it will."

For more information visit [keystonecreations.com.au](http://keystonecreations.com.au).



Students from St Kierans provided the chorus for the anti-bullying song, *Bully-Free Zone!*



Bullying is a huge problem in our schools and on the internet.

### Excerpt from *Bully-Free Zone!*

*Bullying's a cowardly act, abuse is how it's rated,  
In our school there is a rule, it won't be tolerated!  
Everyone must play a part, to keep it safe and friendly –  
Hear the message, loud and clear, You're Not Allowed To Bully!*

#### Chorus

*Bullying is not OK – No way! It's never a solution,  
Deal with problems as they rise with conflict resolution.  
Caring isn't optional, it's what we all expect;  
Everyone is welcome here, but bullying we reject!*

*Gossiping and being mean and making others tearful,  
Pushing, pinching, ganging up and making others fearful,  
Nasty emails, SMS, and other cyber teasing,  
Never can be justified, there's never a good reason!*