



11 May 2009

## **Muswellbrook Pre-schooler recognised for raising emergency alarm**

Three year old Josh Snape will be recognised by the Ambulance Service of NSW with an Ambulance Star Award for having the initiative at such a young age to alert a family member that their was a medical emergency involving his mother at his family home.

Muswellbrook Paramedics will visit Muswellbrook Preschool to present him with the award and take the opportunity to remind the other pre-schoolers that they too can help in an emergency.

Josh had been taught by his mother to press a colour coded button on their home phone should he ever be unable to wake or arose his mother who has diabetes.

On the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> March this year, Josh's mum had an emergency relating to her diabetes and as such was found unconscious by her two small children.

Josh, then 2 was home with his five year old sister but despite being the younger brother he took charge and activated the coloured button on his phone. Confused and very upset, little Josh spoke to his grandmother who recognised there was a problem at the home and dialled Triple zero and asked for ambulance.

On arrival of Muswellbrook paramedics Alecia Saladine and Tim Troon, Josh's mother Nicole was in a serious condition. She was taken to Muswellbrook Hospital and has since made a full recovery.

The Ambulance Service of New South Wales commends the bravery shown by young people such as Josh given he was faced with a difficult medical situation. He is the youngest ever recipient of the award and the third to receive the award this year across the state.

The Ambulance Service has this year introduced a free education program for all preschoolers called the "*Emergency Helpers*" Program to assist child care workers in the education of young children aged 3 – 5 years. The Ambulance Emergency Helpers Program aims to prepare younger children for emergency situations.

The Program teaches children how to identify an emergency service worker, the number to call in an emergency and the importance of learning their home address.

WHAT: Star Award Presentation with Josh and his grandmother

WHERE: Muswellbrook Preschool, Hill St, Muswellbrook

WHEN: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 11am

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