



Actions speak louder than words

BENDIGO Health has got into the spirit of Speech Pathology Australia Week by hosting a variety of activities and launching their speech pathology web page.

Bendigo Health's speech pathologists run paediatric speech and language groups for young children and classes for people who struggle to communicate after suffering a

stroke.

The Tiny Talkers group for toddlers focuses on language stimulation and non-verbal communication skills, while the stroke group has a similar focus, as patients cope with no longer being able to speak.

“(The stroke) group can no

longer use speech, but they desperately want to be able to communicate,” Bendigo Health speech pathologist Melinda Charlesworth said.

“It's very rewarding to see them taking on the challenge of learning a different form of communication, such as gestures, drawing and picture boards to ‘talk’ to each other.”



EXPRESS YOURSELF: Winner of the Speech Pathology Week colouring competition, Ebony Osborne, 3.

Picture: ALEX ELLINGHAUSEN