

Burdekin Shire Council – media release

CHRISTMAS LANTERN TIME

KIDS across the Burdekin are urged to start thinking about Christmas lanterns for this year's Children's Lantern Parade.

The popular annual event will be held in conjunction with Carols in the Courtyard at the Burdekin Theatre Forecourt early next month (*December*).

Burdekin Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said the lantern parade presented a great opportunity for children to combine creativity with Christmas spirit.

“We're asking all of the local schools to encourage their students to make Christmas lanterns and take part in the parade, and I'd like to ask parents to do the same,” Cr McLaughlin said.

“The lanterns can be as simple or as elaborate as you like, and can be made from all sorts of materials – coloured paper, cardboard, tissue paper, cellophane paper, wire, milk cartons, tin cans... The only limit is the child's imagination.”

Cr McLaughlin said children should use safety candles to light their lamps, not traditional flame candles.

Carols in the Courtyard will start at 6pm on Sunday, December 6, and will feature live music, children's entertainment and carol singing.

Santa Claus will lead the lantern parade around the perimeter of the theatre forecourt, starting at 7pm. Following the parade, Santa will hand out free icy poles to all of the children.

Safety candles, glo-rings, food and drinks will be available for sale at the event.

Caption – Burdekin Christian College student, Isabella Piva working on her lantern for the 2008 parade.

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