



Rewarding journey: Eight Cape York youngsters, who had the chance to travel to the Cowboys v Broncos game, practise their football with Sen-Sgt David Bird. Picture: CHRIS SCOTT

Marathon trip to footy a dream come true

EIGHT Cape York youngsters were rewarded for their good behaviour with a free trip to watch an NRL game in Townsville on Friday night.

The children were selected as part of the Field of Dreams program, an initiative by the Cape Indigenous PCYC and Ergon Energy, to watch the Brisbane Broncos beat the North Queensland Cowboys in Townsville.

As part of the program, the Napranum Cape PCYC worked with Weipa police and the Western

Cape College to improve the attendance rate at school.

Police said a "no school, no PCYC" policy has dramatically improved school attendance.

Cape PCYC chief executive Dave Bird said the children taken to the NRL game were rewarded for their good behaviour, their performance at school and their involvement in PCYC activities.

They also met players from the Northern Pride rugby league team.

Ergon's regional manager Geoff Bowes said the initiative was part

of the power supplier's ongoing sponsorship of the Cowboys.

"Ergon Energy is a regional company and we want the regional communities we serve to benefit from our support of the North's local team so we are helping kids who would never otherwise get the chance to see their heroes in person and to go to a game," Mr Bowes said.

The trip included a marathon 12-hour trip from Weipa to Cairns where they saw a movie and did some shopping before the game.