Local students got the chance to shoot hoops with former basketball star Ricky Grace last week when he visited three Pilbara schools.

Mr Grace visited South Hedland, Yandeyarra and Marble Bar primary schools as part of the Upfit role models program funded by FFMVic.

“Upfit is about encouraging kids to come to school and increasing retention rates,” he said.

“It’s a program where we take role models from different backgrounds and our message is, regardless of what your passion is in life, you have to have a good education.

“We (the role models) all tell our stories and how education has helped us get to where we are.”

Aside from a basketball workshop with Mr Grace, students were also treated to a rendition of the song I Am Australian by the Yabu Band.

South Hedland Primary School principal Daryl Mansfield described the performance by Kalgoorlie-Boulder brothers Delly and Boyd Stokes as “spine-tingling”.

“One of the highlights was when the two of them were playing a guitar at the same time with four hands — it was beautiful,” he said.

“They sang some of the song in their native tongue.”

Delly is an incredible vocalist and was an X-factor finalist in 2009.”

Students were also given a class in grooming and deportment by Michelle Harding.

The class encouraged students to have a healthy routine when getting ready for the day which included brushing their teeth and also learned about how to groom themselves for different types of situations.

Malachi Ryder, 8, Sharan Taylor, 7, and Trisha Wilson, 7, play dress-ups as part of their grooming and deportment class. Picture: Heather McNeill