



**THE SCIENCE OF MAKING LESSONS A LOT OF FUN**

**BUBBLE LAB: Preschoolers Zoe and Archie have fun with bubbles as part of the science program.** Picture: TAIT SCHMAAL

**PETER JEAN**

THE Federal Government is providing \$8 million to ensure 350,000 children aged between three and six years old have access to special science and maths programs. Education Minister Simon

Birmingham and Innovation Minister Christopher Pyne had a first-hand look at the Little Scientists program at Ignatius Early Years in Norwood. Bubbles, balloons and water are among the tools being used to transform preschools and early learning centres into lab-

oratories staffed by pint-sized scientists. "We want Australian children to be as confident in a lab or with numbers as most are with an iPad," said Senator Birmingham. "From being able to see how they can purify water to exploring and talking about

numbers, these classes will give children engaging ways to learn about science and maths." The Little Scientists program runs workshops for educators to give them the skills they need to teach children science with confidence, said project manager Sibylle Seidler.