

AUSTRALIA'S TOP PRIMARY

Teaching Australia

Australia's top primary teachers were recognised for their outstanding achievements at the Australian Government's 2007 National Awards for Quality Schooling ceremony.

On 21 March 2007 the Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Honourable Julie Bishop MP, presented 64 awards in seven categories in the Great Hall of Parliament House, Canberra.

The awards were presented to teachers, principals, school support staff and schools from all school sectors, levels and jurisdictions.

Among the individual award winners were four primary teachers recognised in the 'Excellence by a Teacher' category. Below is information about these award-winning teachers.

A full list of winners, including details of primary teacher winners of the 'Excellence in Teacher Leadership', 'Excellence by a Principal' and 'Excellence by a School Support Member' categories, is available at www.teachingaustralia.edu.au.

Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon. Julie Bishop MP, with Glenn Born, Ocean Road Primary School, Western Australia



EXCELLENCE BY A TEACHER – Highly Commended

Glenn Born

Ocean Road Primary School, Western Australia

Physical activity and healthy lifestyles

Glenn Born is an inspiring teacher who has shaped the lives of students at Ocean Road Primary School through innovative, inclusive and rewarding physical education programs.

Through his role as physical education specialist at the school, Glenn has developed and implemented a diverse range of programs aimed at students and their families as well as his colleagues, giving the entire school community an appreciation of the benefits and importance of leading a healthy lifestyle.

More than half of the schools within the local district are adopting Glenn's 'faction athletics carnival' format which has been designed to maximise student participation for the entire day. The widespread adoption of the format reflects the considerable respect for Glenn's leadership and excellence in physical education. Glenn guides his colleagues in other schools and shares his expertise at a local, state and national levels. His advice is regularly sought by work experience students and trainee teachers.

Glynis Lanyon with students at Mount Keira Public School, New South Wales



EXCELLENCE BY A TEACHER – Highly Commended

Glynis Lanyon

Mount Keira Public School, New South Wales

Caring learning environment

Glynis Lanyon is a dedicated teacher, inspiring and shaping the lives of young students by providing them with a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy.

As the kindergarten to Year 1 teacher at Mount Keira Public School, Glynis creates a stimulating learning environment for her students and uses cross-curricular activities to encourage investigative and individual learning. The school's state-wide literacy and numeracy assessment results are consistently above average.

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The enthusiasm for learning Glynis instils in students from their first day at school has played an important part in these results. Glynis is recognised for the inspiration she has provided to many students, colleagues and families and for the mentoring she provides for trainee and beginning teachers.

Wendy Fletcher at Lenah Valley Primary School, Tasmania with student Bethany Tyson



EXCELLENCE BY A TEACHER
– Highly Commended

Wendy Fletcher

Centre for Extended Learning Opportunities and Lenah Valley Primary School, Tasmania
Online programs for gifted students

Wendy Fletcher has pioneered the development of online programs that support and challenge gifted early childhood and primary students.

Wendy is an online and classroom teacher dividing her time between the Centre for Extended Learning Opportunities and Lenah Valley Primary School. Through her highly successful *Ad Astra Online Program*, a virtual classroom which connects gifted students in schools all over Tasmania, Wendy has established a community of more than 300 learners.

Wendy's innovative approach and effective teaching methods are an exemplary model for the Tasmanian school system. Her model is now being used to help build the capacity of schools, clusters and classroom teachers to develop their own online programs.

Wendy is a role model to teachers and has led professional development and support networks in Tasmania as well as nationally and internationally.

Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon. Julie Bishop MP, with Rodger Smee, St Peter's Lutheran College, Queensland



EXCELLENCE BY A TEACHER
– Highly Commended

Rodger Smee

St Peter's Lutheran College, Queensland
Gifted and talented education

Rodger Smee is an outstanding teacher, dedicating his career to raising the national and international profile of Australian practice in gifted and talented education.

In his role as head of the exceptional learner's department, Rodger has created a successful and supportive environment for gifted and talented students at St Peter's Lutheran College. Rodger's influence has inspired many new learning opportunities.

Having spent more than 30 years researching and teaching in gifted education, Rodger drew on his expertise to establish the INFINITY program (Integrating Needs with Feelings by Igniting, Nurturing and Inspiring Talented Youth). INFINITY is a full-time accelerated learning program which is attracting high demand for placements from interstate and overseas.

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AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING AND SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

Teaching Australia has responsibility for the Australian Government's National Awards for Quality Schooling. For more information on the awards or Teaching Australia visit www.teachingaustralia.edu.au