



Department of  
Education and Training

## ***Media Statement***

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Attention: News Editor / Chief of Staff

8 July, 2009

### **Nominate now for the 2009 WA Education Awards**

The principal of Western Australian's top maths school is urging the community to nominate their public school for the 2009 WA Education Awards.

Parkfield Primary School won the title WA Numeracy School of the Year 2008 for improving student performance in mathematics.

The Australind school's outstanding numeracy plan and dedicated numeracy coordinator were among the deciding factors in the school winning the award.

Principal Charlie Serravite said the school was thrilled to win the \$15,000 prize last year and encouraged school communities to nominate their school this year.

"Winning the award helped our school create a positive maths focus," Mr Serravite said.

"The prize money helped us retain our numeracy coordinator who is an essential part of our numeracy program.

"One of the benefits of being identified as the best school has been the increased interest and involvement of parents.

"Parents have recognised just how important numeracy programs are and they want to be involved in the implementation."

Nominations for the 2009 WA Education Awards are now open.

The categories and prizes for 2009 including are:

- Premier's Teacher of the Year – \$25 000 (50% for professional learning)
- WA Principal of the Year – \$25 000 (50% for professional learning)
- WA School Support Staff Member of the Year – \$25 000 (50% for professional learning)
- WA Literacy School of the Year sponsored by Edith Cowan University – \$15 000
- WA Numeracy School of the Year sponsored by Teachers Credit Union – \$15 000
- WA Science School of the Year sponsored by ExxonMobil – \$15 000.

Department of Education and Training Director General Sharyn O'Neill said the awards recognise Western Australia's best educators.

"Quality teachers, principals, support staff and schools are the basis of a great education," she said.

"The professional learning opportunities created by the awards and the cash prizes to schools benefit the whole school community and teachers are able to engage students in exciting lessons which enhance their learning.

"Give your child's teacher, school or principal the ultimate thank you by nominating them for an award."

Anyone interested in nominating a school or staff member for the WA Education Awards should talk with their school's principal.

Nomination kits are available from all public schools or using [det.wa.edu.au/educationawards](http://det.wa.edu.au/educationawards).

(ENDS)

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