



Department of
Education and Training

Media Statement

22 October 2009

Perth Modern School teacher receives online thank you for World Teachers' Day

A Perth Modern School student was one of the first in WA to post an online 'thank you' message to her teacher as part of World Teachers' Day celebrations on 30 October 2009.

"Thank you Mr Hanna for getting me interested in the world around me," Year 8 student Lucy wrote to her teacher Sol Hanna.

"Thank you for treating me like an adult and valuing my opinion. You have made Social Sciences a joy and I look forward to coming to your class."

This is one of many messages being left by students, parents and community members who want to celebrate the work of teachers who have made a difference to their lives.

The Department of Education has set up an online blog so people can post messages for public school teachers.

Deputy Director General Schools, Margery Evans, said World Teachers' Day was the perfect occasion to say thank you to an outstanding teacher.

"Many students and parents want to show their appreciation to teachers, and the blog is a convenient, simple way to do this," Ms Evans said.

"Teachers play a central role in nurturing and guiding children and young people through the lifelong learning process.

"Not only do they educate our children, they support them in their everyday lives."

Lucy's mother Helen said it was great that students and parents could post messages for teachers like Mr Hanna.

"Lucy has really enjoyed her first year at Perth Modern School, thanks mainly to inspiring teachers like Mr Hanna who have encouraged their students to think 'outside the box'," Helen said.

Ms Evans said former students and members of the community could also post messages to their teachers.

"Many of us can look back and recognise how a favourite teacher helped shape who we are today," she said.

"Some people do not realise until several years later how much support they received from their teachers and how they made a positive contribution in their lives. I would also encourage those people to post an online message."

To post a message visit det.wa.edu.au/teachingwa or Google Teaching WA.

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Note: A photo opportunity is available at Perth Modern School with Mr Hanna and his student Lucy.

Media contact: (08) 9264 5723