



Department of
Education and Training

Media Statement

22 October 2009

Local student posts first online thank you for World Teachers' Day

An Applecross Primary School student has posted the first message on the 'thank a teacher' blog as part of World Teachers' Day celebrations on 30 October 2009.

"Thanks Mrs Holbrook for being a great teacher. You are nice and make school fun. You really help me understand my school work," Year 5 student Alex wrote to his teacher Jemma Holbrook.

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."

Alex's mother, Deanne, said it was great that Alex could post a message for his teacher Jemma Holbrook.

"Mrs Holbrook has been really supportive of Alex throughout the year," Deanne said.

"She is the reason he likes going to school. She has shown a genuine interest in his education and welfare."

Alex's younger brother, Chris, also wanted to leave a message for his teacher, Mrs Caratti.

"Thank you for being nice. You care about me and help me with my maths," he wrote.

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.

(ENDS)

Note: A photo opportunity is available with Mrs Holbrook, Mrs Caratti and students Alex and Chris.

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