



Australian Council of State School Organisations

The National Voice of Parents of Children in Australia's Public Schools and Their School Communities

AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION DIGEST

Volume 3 Number 10, 31 March 2009

- [NATIONAL PUBLIC EDUCATION FORUM: Proceedings](#)
- [NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2009: Early Bird](#)
- [BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION: Update](#)
- [LITERACY: The sound and the fury about making sense of written words](#)
- [DIGITAL EDUCATION REVOLUTION: Additional funding for new computers in 512 schools](#)
- [REMUNERATING TEACHERS: Pressure pays off](#)
- [AWARDS & PRIZES: \(8 items\)](#)
- [EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: \(6 items\)](#)
- [HEALTH & WELL-BEING: Using Mobile Phones to Monitor Teenagers Mental Health](#)
- [TERTIARY EDUCATION: Back to the future: the return of a reformer](#)
- [AROUND THE STATES & TERRITORIES: \(8 items\)](#)
- [CONFERENCES & EVENTS: \(2 items\)](#)
- [REMINDERS](#)
- [ACSSO EMAIL NEWSLETTERS](#)



NATIONAL PUBLIC EDUCATION FORUM

The proceedings of the **National Public Education Forum** held at Old Parliament House in Canberra on 27-28 March 2009 will shortly be made available via the ACSSO Website.

Meanwhile, the following material can be accessed on the site

Public Schools: Foundations of our Society

Speech by Hon Julia Gillard MP

This is an important time to be gathering to speak about public education ... Education is now acknowledged as a major social good, with a big role to play in our economic fortunes, something unrecognised for too long ... <http://www.acsso.org.au/forum09/gillard090327.pdf>

Public education is central to a fair and inclusive society

ACSSO President Steve Carter

Public education is a microcosm and model of our community: where young people meet, mix, work and interact with others from every part of society, drawn from all walks of life and social circumstances ... <http://www.acsso.org.au/forum09/carter090328.pdf>

Communiqué

Governments invest in education to drive social, cultural and economic development and, in countries such as Australia, to sustain the conditions that make true democracy possible.

Australian governments have a shared responsibility to maintain the primacy of inclusive public schooling, in the interests of achieving a more educated, just and open society.

<http://www.acsso.org.au/forum09/communique.pdf>

[< top >](#)



NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2009

“Schools – Heart of our community”

12-13 October 2009, Hobart, Tasmania

The Australian Council of State School Organisations and the Australian Parents Council jointly present this major event exploring the vital issues of education from parent & community perspectives.

The peak national groups for the parents of students in public and private schools invite you to explore the current state and future directions of education and how it shapes our society.

We have launched the first stage of the Conference Website at

A program outline, preliminary speaker list and Early Bird discounted registration opportunities can be found online at <http://www.acsso.org.au/natconf09/>.

Stop Press: As this newsletter is being prepared, we can announce a major addition to the program. **Dr Philip Hughes** of the Christian Research Association will launch his report into the impacts and achievements of **chaplaincy and pastoral care programs** in Australian schools. An invited panel and conference participants will discuss the implications in a wide ranging session titled “**Building resilience, well-being and community**”.

[< top >](#)



BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION

Update

BER e-bulletin, March 2009

Seven weeks have passed since the Government announced the Nation Building—Economic Stimulus Plan on 5 February which included a \$14.7 billion Building the Education Revolution

(BER) investment in all Australian schools.

Since then, a BER Taskforce has been established and has been working closely with all states, territories and Block Grant Authorities on this exciting initiative. The construction of world class school facilities, learning environments and general maintenance will begin across the nation as early as next month.

The three key elements are:

- **National School Pride (NSP) Program** –providing funding to every Australian school, primary and secondary, to undertake construction of small scale infrastructure and or minor refurbishment projects. Applications for Round One closed on 24 March 2009. The second and final round will close on 8 May 2009.
- **Primary Schools for 21st Century (P21)** – provides funding for designated capital expenditure projects. Applications for Round One of P21 will close on 10 April 2009. Round Two will close in May and Round Three will close in June.
- **Science and Language Centres for 21st Century Secondary Schools (SLC)** – Applications for the SLC will close on 31 May 2009.

Read more at <http://www.acsso.org.au/pdf/BERe-bulletin.pdf>

[< top >](#)

LITERACY

The sound and the fury about making sense of written words

Sydney Morning Herald, 30 March 2009

He has been criticised over his refusal to bow to the idea that phonics is the only necessary first step in learning to read. Associate professor Brian Cambourne argues his case.

After more than 50 years of teaching reading, I'm hearing more comments such as "Dick/Jane can read fluently at a high level but don't have a clue about what they read."

This rings alarm bells. It suggests reading is merely decoding-to-sound and implies comprehension is secondary to decoding. Such views can alienate students from deep engagement in life-long reading.

Let me explain.

Read more at <http://www.smh.com.au/national/the-sound-and-the-fury-about-making-sense-of-written-words-20090329-9fm8.html>

[< top >](#)

DIGITAL EDUCATION REVOLUTION

Additional funding for new computers in 512 schools

The Hon Julia Gillard MP, 31 March, 2009

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, today announced 512 secondary schools were successful in the supplementary Round 2.1 of the Australian Government's National Secondary School Computer Fund.

As a result, the Government will allocate \$36 million for more than 34 700 new computers,

including \$1.5 million in flexible funding for students with a disability.

The Rudd Government is determined to bring our classrooms into the 21st Century. The Digital Education Revolution will ensure Australian students are equipped with the tools they need for the jobs of today and tomorrow.

Round 2.1 opened on 10 December 2008 and closed in February 2009. Schools that did not apply under Round One or Two, or did not apply for the full number of computers were eligible to apply for funding in Round 2.1.

Read more at

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090331_102609.aspx

[< top >](#)



[< top >](#)

REMUNERATING TEACHERS

Pressure pays off

Australian Educator, journal of the Australian Education Union, Autumn 2009

Teachers are celebrating major successes in pay negotiations around the country, having secured double-digit increases over the life of several new agreements. Lesley Parker reports.

In the past year, Australian teachers have won pay rises far in excess of state and territory governments' initial offers.

South Australia is still in dispute and agreements in Queensland and the ACT expire this year.

The AEU says the campaigns have confirmed teachers as a political force.

Read more at <http://www.aeufederal.org.au/Publications/AE/Atmn09pp04-07.pdf>

[< top >](#)

AWARDS & PRIZES

The Environmental Song for Australia Contest 2009

Entry Forms to be lodged for registration by Friday 9 April 2009

Competition Entries to be submitted by Friday 24 July 2009

We invite all Primary and Secondary schools to take part in "The Environmental Song for Australia Contest 2009 – which is being conducted in conjunction with the International Music Exhibition '09 In Melbourne later this year (see information on the Exhibition event below).

The song needs to be an entirely original composition – and to have a positive environmental message that is inspirational and uplifting.

Participating schools will have from now through to 24 July to write, prepare and rehearse their entry. Then the finished copy will need to be submitted on a CD by 24 July for the judging panel.

Read more at <http://www.imex.net.au/envsoncont.html>

[< top >](#)

National Art & Poetry Competition for Secondary Students

Closing: 10 April 2009

AAHR (Australian Association for Humane Research) Inc is a not for profit organisation dedicated to ending the use of animals in all experiments. Our aim is to promote the use of scientific alternatives in all forms for medical, scientific and commercial research.

To coincide with World Week for Animals in Laboratories (April 2009), AAHR is inviting secondary school students to take part in its nationwide art and poetry competition. The topic is animal experimentation - a hotly debated subject amongst the community.

World Week for Animals in Laboratories is designed to raise awareness of the plight of animals used in research and teaching, and is an important reminder to the community about the health dangers on relying on animal experimentation. The competition is designed to encourage students to research the subject in greater detail and give them the opportunity to express their opinions about the topic.

Read more at <http://www.aahr.org.au>, or contact our office on (03) 9832 0752.

[< top >](#)

National Cannabis Prevention & information Centre

• Poster Competition 2009 – for young people 12 – 18

This is an opportunity for secondary school students to showcase their creative talents and express their thoughts and ideas about cannabis and its impact on young people and their relationships.

One national winner will be selected to receive the prize of \$2,000 – plus \$1,500 for the secondary school of the winning entrant.

View last year's finalist designs at: <http://www.ncpic.org.au/ncpic/news/competitions>

All entries must be accompanied by an official Entry Form and received by 28 July 2009

Forms and further information at: <http://www.ncpic.org.au>

[< top >](#)

National Cannabis Prevention & information Centre:

• Short Film Competition 2009 for young people 16 – 25

You are invited to show your creative talents and express their thoughts about the impacts of cannabis on young people and their relationships, by means of a short film.

The film can be in any style or genre (drama, comedy, documentary, fantasy) but must creatively explore the issues associated with how cannabis may impact on a relationship.

See last year's finalist entries at: <http://www.ncpic.org.au/ncpic/news/competitions/short-film>

All entries must be accompanied by an official Entry Form and received by 20 October 2009

Forms and further information at: <http://www.ncpic.org.au>

Schools First National Awards Program

Schools First is a new initiative that is about improving outcomes for young people.

Schools First is about bringing together students, teachers, parents and community members, to support each other and help improve student outcomes.

With a prize pool of \$5 million every year for three years, Schools First is a national awards program that provides:

- Financial recognition of success in establishing effective school-community partnerships; and
- Financial support to build stronger school-community partnerships.

Read more at <http://www.schoolsfirst.edu.au/cms-home/index.phps>

[< top >](#)

Australian Awards for Teaching Excellence 2009

Nominations are now open for the Australian Awards for Teaching Excellence, an opportunity to celebrate excellence in schools and recognise the achievements of teachers, principals, support staff and schools.

The awards will be made in six categories, with more than \$1million in prizes and an additional award for Excellence in ICT.

Teaching Australia is again managing the awards nomination and selection process and would appreciate your assistance in promoting awareness of the awards in schools. An electronic brochure is provided outlining all key information. We will shortly be sending hard copy posters and brochures direct to all schools.

Nominations can be made online at www.teachingaustralia.edu.au by 19 June 2009. The awards will be presented by the Australian Government Minister for Education, the Hon Julia Gillard, at a ceremony in the Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra in October, in association with World Teachers' Day.

[< top >](#)

2009 National Awards for Excellence in School Music Education:

Nominations are now invited for the 2009 National Awards

Nominations close 17 April 2009

Up to thirteen awards for excellence and leadership in school music education with a value of \$5,000 will be awarded to teachers and school leaders. The awards will recognise exceptional contribution to enhancing the status and quality of music education in their schools.

The 2009 National Awards for Excellence in School Music Education Project is funded by the Australian Government under the Australian Government Quality Teacher Programme.

Read more at <http://musicawards.asme.edu.au/>

[< top >](#)

2009 Australian Museum Eureka Prizes: Entries now open!

This year the Australian Museum Eureka Prizes are celebrating two milestones, the 20th anniversary of the program and a decade of rewarding science in the classroom. We would like to take this opportunity to invite your school to take part. Students, teachers and schools can win over \$30,000 worth of cash and prizes.

The 2009 Australian Museum Eureka School Science program includes the:

- Macquarie University Eureka Prize for Action Against Climate Change Eureka Prize – develop a science presentation about reducing the effects of climate change
- University of Sydney Sleek Geeks Science Eureka Prize – produce a short film telling a science story in an entertaining and accessible way
- UTS Eureka Prize for Science Teaching – awarded to a science teacher who has motivated and inspired students to become involved in student-centred investigation

Read more at <http://www.australianmuseum.net.au/eureka>

[< top >](#)

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Child care services encouraged to update mychild.gov.au

The Hon Julia Gillard MP and The Hon Maxine McKew MP, 26 March 2009

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard and the Parliamentary Secretary for Early Childhood Education and Child Care, Maxine McKew today encouraged child care service providers to update their service and fee information on mychild.gov.au

The Rudd Government launched the mychild.gov.au website in October 2008 to provide all Australian families with easy access to early childhood education and child care information.

mychild.gov.au is a virtual children's hub for parents and carers which provides access to important health, early learning, child care and parenting support information in one convenient location.

Read more at

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Gillard/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090326_111213.aspx

[< top >](#)

Early years care must improve teaching strategies

ACER News – 26 March 2009

Early years education systems must focus on effective teaching and learning strategies and improving staff qualifications to ensure successful outcomes for all children, Professor Collette Tayler will tell educators at two Early Learning State Conferences for the Australian Council for Educational Research in March and April.

Professor Tayler, Chair of Early Childhood Education and Care in the University of Melbourne Graduate School of Education, will stress that in terms of the overall education debate, nothing matters more, or has more long term impact on education outcomes, than the provision of

quality education in the early years.

Read entire article at: http://www.acer.edu.au/enews/0903_tayler.html

[< top >](#)

The place to fix the Grade 9 problem is in Pre-School

ASCD News (USA) 15 March 2009

The achievement gap is a deep-seated, long-standing, hard-to-solve issue that isn't going away unless we use a strategic approach to solve it, Vanderbilt University Professor Joseph Murphy told ASCDers in his session entitled "Leadership Lessons for Closing the Achievement Gap."

His recent research points to some "big-picture conclusions," including that tackling the problem in high school is often too late.

Contrary to public opinion, schools don't cause the achievement gap, and cannot close it on their own, he said. We must not let society off the hook, he said, noting that raising the average income of lower-income people by \$4,000 a year would go far in closing the gap.

Yet schools still have the biggest potential to help and when they fail to act, children become more disadvantaged.

Read more at <http://ascd.typepad.com/blog/2009/03/fix-the-9th-grade-problem-in-prek.html>

[< top >](#)

All Work and No Play Makes For Troubling Trend In Early Education

Science Daily, Feb. 12, 2009

Parents and educators who favor traditional classroom-style learning over free, unstructured playtime in preschool and kindergarten may actually be stunting a child's development instead of enhancing it, according to a University of Illinois professor who studies childhood learning and literacy development.

Anne Haas Dyson, a professor of curriculum and instruction in the U. of I. College of Education, says playtime for children is a "fundamental avenue" for learning, and attempts by parents and educators to create gifted children by bombarding them with information is well-intentioned but ultimately counterproductive.

"That approach doesn't appreciate the role of play and imagination in a child's intellectual development," Dyson said. "Play is where children discover ideas, experiences and concepts and think about them and their consequences. This is where literacy and learning really begins."

Read entire article: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090212125137.htm>

Anne Haas Dyson is a co-author of the forthcoming book "Children, Language, and Literacy: Diverse Children in Diverse Times," which discusses the nature of contemporary early-childhood programs and children's language learning.

[< top >](#)

\$900,000 funding boost for Child Care in rural Australia

Hon Maxine McKew MP, Parliamentary Secretary, 25 March 2009

The Hon Maxine McKew MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Early Childhood Education and Child Care, today announced funding of more than \$900,000 for 14 child care services in rural and remote areas of Australia.

The Australian Government has committed \$3 million over 3 years to assist Long Day Care services in rural and remote areas through the Long Day Care Capital Funding Program.

“The Rudd Government is committed to improving outcomes and opportunities for children in their early years. The Long Day Care Capital Funding Program increases the ability of existing services in rural and remote areas to meet the needs of their communities” said Ms McKew.

The 14 Long Day Care services will use this money to enhance their facilities. Some will extend their buildings to cater for additional children while others are upgrading their indoor or outdoor areas.

Read more at

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/McKew/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090325_092317.aspx

[< top >](#)

\$2.1 million for Early Learning and Care Centre for Palmerston (NT) Families

Hon Maxine McKew MP, Parliamentary Secretary, 31 March 2009

Parliamentary Secretary for Early Childhood Education and Child Care, Maxine McKew, and the Northern Territory Chief Minister, Paul Henderson, today announced funding for a new early learning and care centre in Palmerston, Northern Territory.

The Australian Government is providing \$2.1 million to establish the Palmerston centre, due to be operational from 2010.

The centre will offer at least 50 child care places and will provide quality early learning and care for children aged 0 to 5 years.

“Australia’s future will be shaped by the support we provide for our children’s development today. The Rudd Government recognises that across Australia there are communities with an ongoing need for high quality, affordable child care and we are acting to meet that need,” Ms McKew said.

Read entire release at:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/McKew/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_090331_154038.aspx

[< top >](#)

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[< top >](#)

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Using Mobile Phones to Monitor Teenagers Mental Health

Cellular News, 24 March 2009

A program that uses mobile phones to track the mental health of young people suffering depression will be evaluated through funding from the Telstra Foundation to see if it is suitable to treat youth depression nationwide.

Following the successful world-first pilot of mobilytype developed by the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute (MCRI), the Telstra Foundation has committed a Social Innovation Grant worth \$285,000 over two years as part of its ongoing community investment commitment.

The mobilytype pilot assisted doctors to help treat 14 to 24-year-olds with mental health concerns through the use of mobile phones. The program monitored each young person's mood, stress levels, coping strategies, alcohol and cannabis use, exercise, eating patterns and general lifestyle factors.

Read article: <http://www.cellular-news.com/story/36648.php>

[< top >](#)

TERTIARY EDUCATION

Back to the future: the return of a reformer

Heath Gilmour, Sydney Morning Herald, March 30, 2009

He's back. John Dawkins has emerged from his self-imposed exile to tell the higher education sector it is failing to focus on students.

His blunt message received a mixed reaction at the recent Higher Education Congress in Sydney. Afterwards, asked whether he had upset some conference attendees, he replied: "I hope so". Welcome back, John Dawkins.

A member of the Hawke and Keating governments, his biggest legacy was restructuring higher education, leading to a massive growth in institutions and students. He also oversaw the reintroduction of fees for students in the form of the Higher Education Contribution System.

Since leaving politics in 1993, he has seldom re-entered the higher education arena, preferring to pursue business interests in banking and gas marketing from his base in Adelaide. He also owns a vineyard.

Now he is back with new plans for the sector - which may include a revolutionary national database to hold all academic records. He may have been out of the main game for almost 20 years but he says he has been watching developments from the sidelines. His opinion on educational matters over that time was often sought but rarely proffered.

Read entire article: <http://www.smh.com.au/national/back-to-the-future-the-return-of-a-reformer-20090329-9fm7.html>

[< top >](#)

AROUND THE STATES & TERRITORIES

QLD: Asbestos scare temporarily closes Kruger primary school

Elizabeth Allen, Courier Mail, March 29, 2009

CRACKED ceiling panels containing potentially fatal asbestos have led to the temporary closure of a primary school building near Ipswich.

A block of the 900-student Kruger State School, at Bellbird Park near Ipswich, was shut on Thursday after cracked fibro ceiling panels were found to contain asbestos, a potentially life-threatening substance if inhaled.

Principal Regina Acton told parents in a newsletter on Friday that ceiling repairs would be completed and the area professionally cleaned before school was to begin today.

Read entire article: <http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,27574,25260007-3102,00.html>

[< top >](#)

SA: SA leads national literacy project

Mike Rann, Premier of South Australia, 26 March 2009

South Australia is leading a major national school literacy project designed to improve the literacy skills of children in areas of socio economic disadvantage around Australia.

More than 60 primary principals from around the nation will meet in Adelaide today and tomorrow, signalling the start of the Principals as Literacy Leaders project.

The SA Department of Education and Children's Services is the lead agency for the Commonwealth-funded trial, which also involves education and university partners.

State Education Minister Jane Lomax-Smith, who will address today's meeting, says the research project will evaluate the role of school leadership in improving student achievement.

Read more at <http://www.premier.sa.gov.au/news.php?id=4549>

[< top >](#)

TAS: Polytechnic 'teething problems': understatement of the century

Sue Napier MP, Shadow Education Minister, 25 March 2009

Major morale problems for many Polytechnic staff and college-age students at the new Polytechnic dual campuses highlights yet again the lack of careful thought that went into the Premier, David Bartlett's, Tasmania Tomorrow reforms.

Mrs. Napier asked the Premier in Parliament today whether he was aware of increasing reports from staff working for the Polytechnic on dual campus sites that many staff were without contracts and being prevented from teaching in their sphere of expertise with it having been confined to the Academy, as well as a lack of onsite leadership to support staff and students.

"The State Opposition is also hearing that there are numerous practical problems including a lack of information about class locations, student timetables, attendance and absence information, software is unavailable and many teachers have no access to email systems," Mrs Napier said.

Read entire release: http://www.tas.liberal.org.au/default.cfm?action=news_detail&ID=9376

[< top >](#)

TAS: Premier stands firm on education reforms

ABC News, Mar 29, 2009

The Tasmanian Premier will not be changing the model or the pace of his government's reforms of post-Year 10 education.

Premier David Bartlett said the old system was not working and he had faith the senior bureaucrats who are implementing the changes will iron out the problems.

Tasmania's new Polytechnic and Academy system has been mired with reports students, staff and the schools' computer systems are struggling to cope with the changes.

But the Premier said he will not be slowing the reforms down.

Read more at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/03/29/2529045.htm>

[< top >](#)

TAS: Tomorrow Turmoil

Hon Sue Napier MP, 31 March 2009

The Premier's lauded Tasmania Tomorrow reforms are still unraveling weeks after the start of the 2009 school year. Many teachers at the new Polytechnic dual campuses are working without contracts, without pay and, alarmingly, without having undergone promised police checks.

Other problems include poor staff and student morale and a lack of information about class locations, student timetables, attendance and absence information.

Shadow Minister for Education and Skills, Sue Napier, said that although the State Opposition welcomed the apparent acknowledgment by the Premier that appropriate leadership was needed on the Polytechnic dual campuses to get the reforms back on track, reports were now emerging of significant problems on the main campuses.

Read entire release: http://www.tas.liberal.org.au/default.cfm?action=news_detail&ID=9410

[< top >](#)

VIC: Schools Set to Tackle Bigger Social Issues

Education Minister Bronwyn Pike, 27 March 2009

New school guidelines to help address student behavioural issues before they become broader social problems will be introduced into Victorian schools.

Replacing guidelines that are 15 years old, Education Minister Bronwyn Pike released the Effective Schools are Engaging Schools: Student Engagement Policy Guidelines today.

"A lot has changed in the 15 years since the last guidelines were developed and we need to change with the times and recognise that if students are having troubles, their best chance of turning their lives around is by remaining in a structured and supportive environment such as education, not becoming distant and disengaged from society," Ms Pike said.

"Principals will retain their powers to suspend and expel, including taking immediate action in extreme circumstances, but they will also have more support available to find better alternatives to help keep students in school, because there's no benefit in sending a troublesome student to an empty home on a lengthy suspension."

Read more at <http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/minister-for-education/schools-set-to-tackle-bigger-social-issues.html>

[< top >](#)

VIC: State limits school student suspensions to five days

Farrah Tomazin, The Age, March 28, 2009

PRINCIPALS will not be allowed to suspend unruly students for more than five consecutive days, after the State Government refused to back down on plans to overhaul disciplinary procedures in schools.

Education Minister Bronwyn Pike yesterday announced new suspension and expulsion guidelines for schools, which will reduce the amount of time students can be suspended for bad behaviour.

Despite a backlash from schools, the Government will cut the amount of time students can be suspended to five consecutive days, down from the current 10. The maximum number of suspensions that can be issued each year will also be cut to 15 per student (down from 20), while principals seeking to expel a student will also be required to justify their decision with the Education Department, which will have the final say.

Principals say the changes reduce their autonomy and are a sign the Government is "going soft" on school discipline.

Read entire article: <http://www.theage.com.au/national/state-limits-school-student-suspensions-to-five-days-20090327-9eb1.html>

[< top >](#)

VIC: Age of enlightenment – celebrating oldest serving principal

Elisabeth Tarica, The Age, March 30, 2009

Helen Jackson's earliest memory of school is one of absolute joy. She describes her first day at St Margaret of Scotland's infant school with such startling clarity that it is hard to believe it was almost 75 years ago.

"I can still see it as though it was yesterday," she says. "I can see the infant room. It had blackboards all the way around, there was a piano, there was a huge doll's house, a rocking horse and marvellous pictures on the wall.

"I'd be at the board and doing the tables and making up sums. This is what I used to play when I was at home but now of course I was in a real school."

Today Miss Jackson is still very much in a real school - albeit a long way from Scotland. At 77, she is the oldest serving principal in the state and has dedicated almost 60 years to teaching.

Her longevity has been marked by a passion obvious even to those she taught early on. She is a force, a woman with a drive and energy that is inspiring - and a little scary.

Read entire article: <http://www.theage.com.au/national/education/age-of-enlightenment-20090327-9dxa.html>

[< top >](#)

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

Early Learning State Conference

Frameworks and Foundations: When only THE BEST will do

2 April, University of Melbourne

9.30am -3.30pm: Hawthorn Campus, Auburn Road, Hawthorn, Melbourne. (Ample parking at venue).

Cost: \$99.00pp or \$77.00pp (with student ID) (Includes morning tea, lunch and GST)

Information & Registration: <http://www.acer.edu.au/proflearn/early-learning.html>

[< top >](#)

NSW Federation of Parents' & Citizens' Associations Annual Conference 2009

31 July-1 August 2009, Penrith NSW

The Federation's Annual Conference will be held at Penrith Panthers, Mulgoa Road, Penrith on July 31, August 1 and 2.

P&C Associations across the state are encouraged to send up to three delegates to this conference.

Details and Notice of Intention to attend have been mailed and emailed to all Public Schools in NSW.

Details are also up on our website: <http://www.pandc.org.au/annual-conference.seo>.

[< top >](#)

REMINDERS

March-May - Teaching Australia Workshops and Masterclasses - locations around Australia - <http://www.teachingaustralia.edu.au>

2-3 April - ACOSS National Conference - Sydney, NSW - <http://users.tpg.com.au/ads1444m/bulletinfinal.htm>

3-5 April - WA Childcare and Early Childhood Education Conference - Perth, WA - <http://www.waecec.com.au/>

9 July - Registration closes for Environmental Song for Australia Contest - <http://www.imex.net.au/envsoncont.html>

15-17 April - Australian Guidance and Counselling Association Conference - Hobart, TAS - <http://www.agca.com.au/>

15-18 April - International Outdoor Education Research Conference - Beechworth, VIC - http://www.latrobe.edu.au/oent/research_conf_2009.htm

17-21 April - National Art Education Association National Convention - Minneapolis, USA - <http://www.naea-reston.org/convention.html>

1 May - Nominations close for Australian Museum Eureka Prizes - <http://www.australianmuseum.net.au/eureka/>

15 May - National Walk Safely to School Day - <http://www.walk.com.au>

21 May - Education 09 - London, UK - <http://www.govnet.co.uk/education/>

31 May - Australian Rural Education Awards nominations close - <http://www.spera.edu.au>

19 June - Nominations close for Australian Awards for Teaching Excellence - <http://www.teachingaustralia.edu.au>

4-7 July - Contasta Science Education Conference - Launceston, TAS - <http://www.cdesign.com.au/conasta58>

5-8 July - World Conference on Higher Education - Paris, France - http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=56642&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

5-10 July - Youth ANZAAS 2009 - Melbourne, Victoria - <http://www.anzaas.org.au/youth.html>

8-10 July - SPERA National Conference - Flinders University, SA - <http://www.spera.edu.au//conferences/callforpapers.pdf>

13-16 July - Conference of the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers - Fremantle, WA - <http://www.aamt.edu.au/2009-conference>

6-7 August - Professional Development Network School Leaders' Conference - Gold Coast, QLD - <http://www.griffith.edu.au/conference/professional-development-network-leadership-conference-2009>

13-14 August - Isolated Children's Parents' Assoc. of Australia Federal Conference - Longreach, QLD - <http://www.icpa.com.au>

26-28 September - ACEL International Conference - Darwin, NT - <http://www.ancel.org.au/index.php?id=858>

12-13 October - ACSO National Conference - Hobart, Tasmania - <http://www.acsso.org.au/natconf09/>

ACSSO EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

- Australian Education Digest : <http://www.acsso.org.au/aed.htm> (weekly)
- International News Roundup : <http://www.acsso.org.au/roundup.htm> (monthly)
- Values Education : <http://www.valuesineducation.org.au/news.htm> (monthly)
- Languages Education : <http://www.languageseducation.com/news.htm> (monthly)
- Ensemble - Music Education : <http://www.ensemble.org.au/news.htm> (monthly)
- Family School Partners : http://www.familyschool.org.au/?page_id=6 (quarterly)
- Public Education Voice : <http://www.acsso.org.au/pev.htm> (quarterly)

Do you know of an event or resource that schools should know about? Email us at letters@acsso.org.au. Details of products, services, events, resources or points of view are provided for information only; publication does not imply endorsement or recommendation. No warranty is provided nor liability accepted by ACSSO, its members or employees.
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