

## **Media Release: World Teachers' Day - Helping every child thrive**

On World Teachers' Day, we give thanks for the teachers across Toowoomba Catholic Schools who make a difference every day.

This year's theme, Teachers Change Lives, is reflected in educators like Sandra Rosentreter, whose teaching is grounded in the belief that every child deserves to be known, supported and challenged to reach their potential.

When Sandra Rosentreter walks into her Year 6 classroom at Holy Name Primary School each day, she brings with her a simple belief: every child deserves to be known, supported and challenged to achieve their potential.

This commitment to excellence has seen Sandra recognised as the 2026 Toowoomba Catholic Schools Excellence Award Recipient for Primary Expert Teacher.

A highly respected educator, Sandra is known for her expertise in evidence-based teaching, personalised learning and her focus on improving outcomes for every student.

"I've always believed that every child can succeed when they feel safe, valued and supported," Sandra said.

"Our role as teachers is to understand where each student is in their learning journey and help them take the next step with confidence."

Sandra's journey into teaching began with a desire to make a meaningful difference in young people's lives.

"I was drawn to teaching because I've always enjoyed working with people. I love seeing young people discover their strengths, grow in confidence and realise just how much they can achieve."

Today, her classroom is a place where students are encouraged to think deeply, ask questions and challenge themselves, with learning tailored to the needs of every student.

One of the aspects of teaching she finds most rewarding is watching students grow in confidence.

"When a student achieves something they didn't think was possible, it is very special. Watching students grow in confidence and believe in themselves is incredibly powerful."

Beyond her classroom, Sandra plays a key leadership role at Holy Name Primary School. She works with colleagues to strengthen teaching practice and improve outcomes for students across the school. She also mentors beginning and pre-service teachers, helping them build confidence and capability in their profession.

Sandra is committed to helping students develop a deeper understanding of the diverse communities to which they belong. Her inclusion of First Nations perspectives is intentional and authentic, informed through collaboration with Toowoomba Catholic Schools staff and community members.

By embedding First Nations histories, cultures and ways of knowing into learning experiences, she encourages students to value different perspectives and deepen their understanding of Australia's shared story.

“Education can help build understanding and respect. I want my students to value the richness of First Nations cultures and understand why it’s so important to listen, learn and walk together.”

Sandra also encourages students to explore the values of Holy Name, helping encourage ethical leadership and responsible citizenship.

At the heart of Sandra's work is a deep respect for the dignity and potential of every child. As Queensland celebrates World Teachers' Day and this year's theme, Teachers Change Lives, Sandra's dedication is a powerful reminder of the impact great teachers have every day.

Through her expertise, leadership and commitment to every learner, Sandra is helping young people build confidence, discover their potential and create bright futures.

To all of our teachers, thank you for all that you do and for the lasting difference you make!

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