

APPA congratulates Prime Minister's Primary School Science Prize recipient

The Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) congratulates Rebecca Johnson of Queensland's Windaroo State School who was announced today as this year's recipient of the \$50,000 Prime Minister's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in Primary Schools.

Dennis Yarrington, APPA President and member of the selection panel that chose Rebecca, said that, as well as making an outstanding contribution in the area of science, Rebecca has led a cultural and environmental shift in her school.

"Teaching is very much about making a difference in the lives of children. Rebecca Johnson has made that difference at Windaroo State School – the grounds have been transformed, the community is keenly involved and her passion for science is there in her students.

"Just as importantly, Rebecca's drive has spread amongst her colleagues and now further afield to other schools where her model of teaching science to primary students has been adopted.

Mr Yarrington made the point that the Prime Minister's Prizes for Science highlight the value of science in the primary curriculum. He said,

"APPA holds the position that science is a core learning area of the primary school curriculum. Recognising the contribution of individual teachers on the same stage as eminent scientists and professors can only enhance its place in our schools.

"Primary schools contribute to our nation's future and Rebecca's work at Windaroo will undoubtedly inspire many to enter the world of science in years to come."

For information about Rebecca Johnson and the Prime Minister's Prizes for Science go to:

<http://www.science.gov.au/community/PrimeMinistersPrizesforScience/Recipients/2015/Pages/Rebecca-Johnson.aspx>

APPA is the professional association representing 7,200 school leaders in Government, Independent and Catholic primary schools across Australia.

21 OCTOBER 2015

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