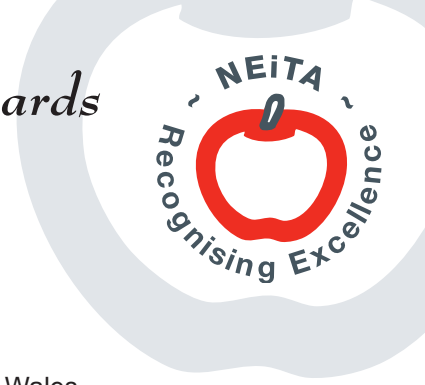


NEiTA 2009 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards

State and Territory Award Recipient



Sarah Daley

Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood)

Balgowlah North Public School, North Balgowlah, New South Wales

Nominated by: School parents

Position: Kindergarten teacher • Category: Primary • Level taught: Kindergarten • Years teaching: 5 years • Years at this school: 2.5 years • School type: Government • Town/Suburb: North Balgowlah • State: New South Wales • Postcode: 2093

Why teaching?

I have always loved children and their desire to explore their world. Coming from a family of teachers I was very aware of the difference my parents made to children's school experiences. I also witnessed the enjoyment that came from being involved with the children and their families.

I am constantly inspired by the way the children at school live their lives and view their world. I think teachers learn immensely from the children in their care. The positive joy the children display from the simple things in life is what I love to be around; this keeps me feeling innovative and fresh. Teaching always provides opportunities for fun and laughs!

Tailoring individual learning programs to benefit each young student

As a kindergarten teacher at Balgowlah North Public School, Sarah Daley provides students with a solid foundation upon which to base their educational journey. Sarah employs the Best Start Program that provides a basis for formulating learning groups and individual student goals from early assessments. She gets to know children individually, so that she can work with their unique strengths and abilities.

Sarah tailors individual learning programs for each child. When several of her pupils were experiencing reading difficulties, she introduced a reading word mat for each child. These reading word mats helped the children to properly link certain letters with certain sounds. Sarah also provides parents with specific feedback on each child's development and progress.

In the area of mathematics, Sarah uses the Count Me In Too program to provide a framework for observing the children's level of achievement. The children work on maths exercises in small groups best suited to their current learning levels.

To reinforce school rules and core values, Sarah introduced mini merit and merit certificates. These reward children for positive behaviour, and have been very effective in motivating the students.

In addition to her duties as a kindergarten teacher, Sarah also coordinates school dance groups, coaching students and choreographing dance performances. She is the creative arts coordinator and engages the children in a variety of opportunities to expand their artistic horizons.

Sarah liaises with other teachers in her area and meets with staff from surrounding schools. This gives teachers the opportunity to network and share ideas. Sarah is a caring and nurturing teacher, who provides the best possible start to each child's educational pursuits.

Contact details:

Principal: Mrs Vicki Treble
Phone: 02 9949 4499

Teacher: Sarah Daley
Phone: 0407 003 267
Email: sarah.daley2@det.nsw.edu.au

For further information, please contact:

Janet Thomas, Public Relations, ASG on behalf of the NEiTA Foundation.
Telephone: (03) 9276 7758 Mobile: 0402 837 758 Email: publicrelations@asg.com.au

NEiTA is administered by the Australian Scholarships Group Friendly Society Limited
ABN 21 087 648 879 Head Office: 23-35 Hanover Street Oakleigh Victoria 3166
Telephone: (03) 9276 7768 Facsimile: (03) 9276 7798 Website: www.asg.com.au or www.neita.com.au

Proudly supported by



**Australian
Scholarships
Group**

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S EDUCATION