

December 2018

EdConnect Australia

NEWSLETTER



Region: **North East Metro**
Liaison Officer: **Karen Vincent**

Liaison Officer's Round-up

LATEST NEWS

We made it!! Thanks to all of you for a wonderful year – School Coordinators, Teachers and Volunteers alike have all made a great contribution to the children who needed it most in 2018. 😊

See you all in 2019. Your SC will be in touch to confirm your start dates.

Congratulations to **Fay Mavor** (pictured right with staff from Morley SHS – Erin Jarvis, Sandra Dobson and Sue Wallis). Fay has dedicated a whopping 18 years to volunteering at Morley SHS, helping students of all ages. Fay was an integral part of the Literacy and Numeracy groups that ran for many years at the school. Many students will be better off thanks to your efforts. Good on you Fay, we wish you all the best!



Also in this issue:

- International Volunteer Day Info
 - Lyn Richards Story
 - Fun TED Talks

• Volunteer Story – Lyn Richards

Lyn Richards is one of our fantastic volunteers at North Morley PS. This is the story of her first experience mentoring two young students:



“My favourite thing about volunteering is just spending time with the two boys that I mentor and seeing how they chatter away and open up to me now, rather than being withdrawn as they were at the beginning. The activities we do together have mostly been board games and recently some very old games that the boys hadn't seen before, which they thoroughly enjoyed. I have been testing them on their maths and incorporating this within the games. I also watched the Melbourne cup with them!

As the boys are from Iran and Iraq, I have found their needs and expectations are very different. I have researched the senior schools that the boys will be attending and we've been discussing their upcoming transition. We've also included conversations about local and overseas news in our sessions, including soccer results and the recent earthquake in their country of birth. I have played on the oval with a soccer ball with them too, which was challenging for me.

What I will take away from this is how much the boys have taught me about their birth culture and how I have seen the boys confidence in themselves improve during our time together. Their teacher has also been very supportive and encouraging. I plan to continue in the role next year with some new students.”

Many of our EdConnect member schools are keen for more great volunteers, so if you would like to get involved, please contact us on 9444 8646 or edconnectaustralia@edconnect.org.au



- **International Volunteer Day – 5 Dec 2018**



Thanks for your part in making volunteering great in Australia!

In 1985, the United Nations recognised the first International Volunteer Day to acknowledge and celebrate the role of volunteers in their communities around the world. International Volunteer Day in Australia was held on 5 December 2018 and had the theme of “Volunteers Build Resilient Communities”. It recognized volunteers worldwide – with a special focus on local community volunteers – who contribute to making their communities more resilient against natural disasters and economic stresses.

Find out more : <https://www.unv.org/internationalvolunteerday2018>



- **TED Talks – A Talk on Every Topic!**

Some of you may have seen a TED Talk or two in your time but here’s a little background for those who haven’t and some Talks that may interest to you.

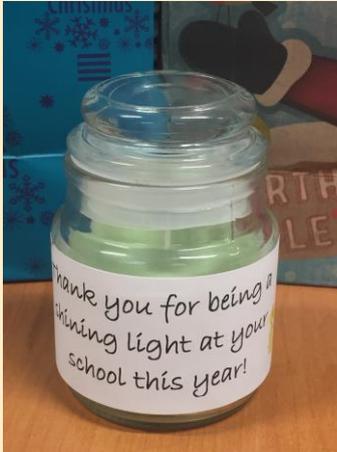
TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues in more than 100 languages.

- Ramsey Musallam – 3 Rules to spark learning
- Anindya Kundu: The boost students need to overcome obstacles
- Angerla Lee Duckworth – Grit: The Power of passion and perseverance
- Ken Robinson – Do schools kill creativity?
- Rita Pierson – Every kid needs a champion
- Lera Boroditsky – How language shapes the way we think
- Sophie Andrews – The best way to help is often just to listen

• End of Year Volunteer Party!



Many laughs were had, many wraps unwrapped and many volunteers channeled their favourite dance moves at our North Metro End of Year Volunteer Event! Here are some pictures of the day:



Quote of the day– “Education begins the moment we see children as innately wise and capable beings. Only then can we play along in their world. Vince Gowmon.

Thanks to the Good Guys who donated \$100 worth of prizes for the day. Congratulations to our winners: Barbara Flemming, Margaret Hodgkinson, Carmel Ward!!



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