



Find out more about our
Self-managed super solution

Eureka! Teacher is our brightest spark

Clare Peddie | The Advertiser | September 07, 2011 12:30am | 4 comments

Recommend Send Be the first of your friends to recommend this. 0 tweet Share 0



Salisbury High School teacher Anita Trenwith has won the prestigious national Eureka Prize for Science Teaching. Picture: Bianca De Marchi

HAIR-raising experiments are all part of the fun in class with Australia's best science teacher.

Anita Trenwith, from Salisbury High School, won the \$10,000 Eureka Prize for Science Teaching in Sydney last night.

Ms Trenwith modified the curriculum for students with special needs, many of whom have gone on to perform public science shows, mentor younger students and compete against mainstream students in events such as the Science and Engineering Challenge.

Ms Trenwith said she liked to start her lessons with something eye-catching and attention-grabbing, to make sure students arrived on time and get them talking about science. "They are suddenly interested in the how and why of the demonstrations they have seen," she said.

"The first section of any lesson is pivotal to engage, motivate and interest students. It is not the right time for taking the roll."

- RELATED COVERAGE**
- Science with a twist *Courier Mail*, 15 Sep 2011
 - Selling science to high energy students *The Australian*, 6 Sep 2011
 - Eureka Prize Winners for 2011 *The Australian*, 6 Sep 2011
 - School curriculum to preach tolerance *Perth Now*, 5 Sep 2011
 - Science students are having a good slime *Adelaide Now*, 18 Aug 2011

Last year, four students in her class of nine Year 12s studying science and community achieved perfect scores of 20 out of 20.

In 2009, Ms Trenwith won the South Australian Science Excellence Award for School Science Educator of the Year. The prestigious Eureka prize is further recognition for the teacher and her students.

Ms Trenwith says there's nowhere else she'd rather be.

"I love being in the classroom," she said.

"That's where my passion is. I absolutely love it, the interaction with the students is just fantastic. I wouldn't want to change that."

Assistant principal, special needs, Emma Medhurst says she is "constantly in awe" of the way students respond. "Anita inspires enthusiasm, drives passion and inquiry and delivers a curriculum that is creative, reflective and engaging," she said.

"Before Anita taught science within the special education faculty, we had an ad hoc exposure to science. Today, science is a part of our established curriculum with more students choosing to continue with science in their senior years."

Jayden Huddleston, 14, in Year 9 enjoys science classes, even if it means getting "zapped" with static electricity. "We get to do exciting experiments," he said.

4 comments on this story

Print Email Share

Recommend Send Be the first of your friends to recommend this. 0 tweet Share 0

Back to top of page

DIY Super.

Your super, your way.

Find out more about our
Self-managed super solution

Advertisement

VIDEO

Watch

0:00 / 1:22

Telekinetic guys work their magic on paper planes

See what happens when a bunch of mates send a few paper planes off a balcony. LANGUAGE WARNING / YouTube

5 October 2011 news.com.au

[WATCH MORE VIDEO >](#)

The Advertiser e-Edition

NEWS SENT STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX

SPONSORED LINKS

- Sportingbet Offer**
Join today & receive up to \$200 in Deposit Bonuses!
- ClimateSmart Home Service**
Make your power bill sparkle! Click to start savin' bundles.
- Switch to Origin Energy**
Get 2 months free electricity usage when you switch for 24 months.

NEWS [More News >>](#)

Law firm finance boss arrested

FORMER law firm finance chief Craig Dean Raneberg will face court in Adelaide on fraud charges after being arrested in an international airport.

- > **Nuriootpa:** Woman 'blacked out during assault'
- > **Launch:** Apple crushed by fan reaction
- > **Seattle:** Amanda Knox arrives back home
- > **Late run:** New bus operator under the pump

SPORT [More Sport >>](#)

Warner's record T20 innings

STOSUR'S post-slam woes, Lingy to hang 'em up and Tiger's brand is untarnished. VIDEO: Soccer ref takes a dive