

# 2020 RECOGNITION AWARDS

## Director's Award

### Citation

In recognition of special service to Catholic Education.

Every Principal and every teacher deserves a prize this year. In so many ways, all schools have been remarkable in managing their usual operations, maintaining a focus on teaching and learning and caring for the well-being of their communities.

The recipients of this year's Director's Award did all this and more, with the awardees undertaking an ambitious project involving a commitment to both rigorous professional learning and research and change of practice.

They embody my vision as Director, for our System to be trail blazers in the implementation of evidence based teaching practices.

This Archdiocese is unapologetic in its determination to ensure that our children receive teaching that is world class and based on the best understanding of how students learn.

The project undertaken by our Award recipients encapsulated these goals.

They commenced this year amidst challenge and disruption but with determination to implement their project.

However, very soon after the project began it was halted when COVID-19 made it impossible to continue in its original form.

Undaunted, these educators persevered with their vision to re-imagine how their goals could be achieved in a different way.

As a dedicated team, they adjusted and adapted the original plan to ignite the positive energy required to re-establish and drive the project in a new form.

Their can-do attitude made all things possible despite a very short timeframe and considerable constraints.

With a revised scope, they committed to an intensive period of rigorous learning and implementation.

Working in the K-2 sphere, they were led by renowned educator, Dr Lorraine Hammond, to develop their expertise and skills in early years' literacy.

In so doing, they created a model for the Catalyst program, involving theoretical study, training in new techniques and critique of their own practice.

As a System, their work paves the way for us as we move forward with Catalyst.

Their on-going commitment leaves no doubt as to the future success of the aims of the project in their individual contexts.

For their dedication to excellence and high quality education, I am delighted to announce that the Director's Award this year goes to the 2020 K-2 Literacy Project schools:

- St Bernard's Primary School Batemans Bay
- St Mary's Primary School Crookwell
- St Anne's Central School Temora.