



Teaching through every **moment**

World Teachers' Day QLD

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worldteachersday.com.au

Boosting technology in the bush

Inspired by her Year 5 teacher Sam Owczarek (also known as Mrs. O) became a teacher to help others and make a difference.

Mrs O is an expert in delivering remote learning and is the Digital Learning Facilitator and Design and Digital Technologies Teacher at the Charleville School of Distance Education.

"I grew up in Darwin and had a wonderful year 5 teacher, Mr Libean, who showed me the power of education," Mrs O said.

"He was a teacher who was understanding and kind yet had great discipline and gave us many hands-on, practical learning experiences that made us want to learn.

"I began my career teaching on the islands of the Northern Territory in the 1990s. I have always loved teaching in the country.

"There's something special about sharing my love of technology with students across the remote areas of Queensland."

Mrs O is a remote learner herself — completing the final year of her teaching degree by distance education.

At the Charleville School of Distance Education, Mrs O uses her passion for technologies to help students who are unable to go to a mainstream school — due to location, medical reasons or choice.

"After 14 years I am still loving my job and the rewards, and challenges, it brings," she said.

"I have seen several changes in our school — from the introduction of data conferencing then web conferencing in several formats, to the different versions of our online learning platforms, from using telephone to VoIP and seeing the development of the Technologies curriculum across our school.

"All these changes have meant we are able to offer more for our students."

Sam Owczarek (Mrs. O)
Charleville School of Distance Education