



World Teachers' Day QLD

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worldteachersday.com.au

Teaching through every moment

Cynicism gives way to fun and laughter

Secondary teacher Andrew Street believes he has found the antidote to cynicism.

"I feel immune from much negativity because, as a teacher, I am surrounded by enthusiastic students and caring teachers every single day," he said.

Andrew is a secondary teacher and head of the English department at Matthew Flinders Anglican College in Buderim on the Sunshine Coast.

"My undergraduate degree was in Business and Marketing and I worked in the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) industry for a short time before choosing to complete postgraduate studies in Education," Andrew said.

"In FMCG the key performance indicators (KPIs) are mostly financially-focused and I felt a sense of detachment from my work," he said.

"Teaching is the opposite, where the unofficial KPIs are all about happiness and self-improvement in students."

Andrew has been teaching since 2007 and sees every day as an opportunity to create unique and positive experiences that enrich the learning environment.

"My favourite thing about working with young people is their sense of humour; not a day goes by without a budding comedian or two bringing laughter to the class, often inadvertently," he said.

"I've never focused on student grades as they are a by-product of happy and engaged students, and I love that I have the ability to shape their lives in a positive way."

Andrew said positive feedback from students was the best reward.

"To have past pupils drop into the school, or send a quick email, or to run into them at the supermarket and hear how well they are doing post-secondary education is especially rewarding."

Andrew Street

Matthew Flinders Anglican College