



# MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 14 October 2019

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## Stirling East Primary School students to address national event.

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One amazing teacher and several inspiring students from Stirling East Primary School will attend the Murray Darling Association's 75<sup>th</sup> National Conference later this month to present their class's studies on the Murray Darling Basin and receive the Murray Darling Foundation's 2019/2020 Travel Bursary award.

This passionate year 6/7 class, guided by their teacher Ms Annette Davis, have spent the past six months studying the health and management of the Murray Darling Basin.

The class will present at this year's Gala Dinner, as part of an outstanding conference to be held in Toowoomba from October 22 – 24. The program includes speakers from industry, government, and community, exploring the key theme of "Regeneration for a Healthy Basin", as well as the challenges and opportunities around intensifying agriculture sustainably.

Teacher Annette Davis said the class started studying the Basin after the Queensland floods earlier in the year, which prompted the class to investigate where the water had gone.

"The kids said 'Oh great! The water is going to come down into the Murray-Darling Basin and we'll be right'," said Ms Davis, [in an interview with the ABC](#).

"But they found out that is not correct."

Ms Davis said that this prompted the class to learn more about the river system, with the students becoming increasingly concerned, and calling for grown-ups to become better at sharing for a sustainable future.

MDA Chair of Region 7 Cr Andrew Tilley is excited to have representatives attend the conference and accept the bursary on behalf of the school. "It is especially encouraging to know that these students show such concern and are looking at the Basin as a whole," said Cr Tilley.

Murray Darling Association CEO Emma Bradbury said she is looking forward to the students addressing the gala dinner and outlining their work, as well as further initiatives to incorporate water literacy in the Australian curriculum.

"It's inspiring to see that amongst the current challenging times in the Basin, we also have such strong inter-generational passion and dedication to creating a better future for all Basin communities," Ms Bradbury said. "The Stirling East Primary School is a great example of the next generation of Basin leaders."

Places are filling up rapidly. Those wanting to attend the conference can register online at [www.mda.asn.au](http://www.mda.asn.au).

For more information, contact Murray Darling Association on (03) 5480 3805 or [comms@mda.asn.au](mailto:comms@mda.asn.au)