



MEDIA RELEASE

March 24 2014

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED TODAY

Students to highlight the importance of being “principal”

A record number of students from around Australia will find themselves in the principal’s office this June – but for all the right reasons.

Launched this morning (Monday March 24), **Student Principal for a Day** will see students switching places with their principals as part of a national campaign to raise the profile and appreciation of school leadership.

Student Principal for a Day - coordinated by Principals Australia Institute (PAI)* – will allow hundreds of primary and secondary students to take on the top job at their school on Wednesday June 4 2014.

Honorary principals will perform tasks such as leading an assembly, joining in a staff meeting, or conducting school tours.

The event was held for the first time last year, receiving praise around Australia for giving students a ‘hands-on’ lesson in leadership.

“As a principal, I know how important it is to provide young people with opportunities to stretch their capacity as thinkers and leaders,” said Jim Davies, CEO of PAI.



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He said this year's event was being sponsored by Sherpa Kids Australia*.

"Sherpa Kids Australia and Principals Australia Institute share similar values and we believe this partnership will see even more schools participate in this exciting event this time round," he said.

The *Student Principal for a Day* launch coincides with findings that show **four out of five principals say** they are in the role because of the contribution they make to student learning and achievement.

"Australia needs great principals and teachers. My hope is that Student Principal for a Day will inspire young people to consider a career in education - or to even become a principal one day," Mr Davies said.

Schools can register to participate at the Student Principal for a Day website:

www.sp4d.edu.au

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* **Principals Australia Institute (PAI)** – pai.edu.au - provides professional learning, leadership development and support to the nation's 10,000 principals and schools. PAI is a not-for-profit organisation supporting primary and secondary schools across all schooling sectors (government, Catholic and independent).

* **Sherpa Kids Australia** – sherpa-kids.com.au - provides quality outside school hours care via local owner-operators who work closely with principals and school communities.



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