

**EDITORIAL**

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's 1,000 'best and brightest brains' will meet at Parliament House in Canberra this month to help shape a long-term strategy for the nation's future. If you thought that's what governments were for, think again. There's a deal of scepticism about the 2020 Summit, to be co-chaired by the PM and Professor Glyn Davis, Vice Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, but in truth the 10 'critical areas' Rudd wants to address actually are critical areas. The 1,000 2020 Summiteers will be divided into panels of 100 participants to address issues for: the economy; economic infrastructure; population and climate change; rural Australia; health; communities, families and social inclusion; Indigenous Australia; the arts; governance; and security. Given the PM's pre-election promise of an 'education revolution,' you'd expect education to be one of the 10 critical areas, and it does appear within the PM's economy category alongside skills, training, innovation and productivity. The PM wants to know how to ensure that our children have the highest quality teachers in early childhood, school, technical and further education or university, and wants to know how best to deal with the crisis in Maths and Science-related disciplines across the education system. Rudd appointed David Morgan, the chief executive officer of Westpac until last year, to his 2020 independent steering committee, and to head the economy panel to look at teacher quality, Maths and Science. Strange but true, Morgan was a child actor in a 1960s TV show called *The Adventures of the Terrible Ten*. Whether the 2020 Summit will be *The Further Adventures of the Terrible Ten* or *The Adventures of the Thousand Future Thinkers* remains to be seen. **T**

**FAST FACTS**

- The percentage of Australian beginning teachers with between one and three years' experience who say they will not be teaching in the public system in 10 years: 47.9 per cent.
- Percentage of Australian beginning teachers who changed careers to start teaching: 49.5 per cent.
- Percentage who say they will leave the public system to work in another industry: 55.5 per cent.
- Percentage who say workload is a concern: 60.4 per cent.
- Percentage who say pay is a concern: 59.8 per cent.
- Percentage who say behaviour management is a concern: 55.5 per cent.
- Percentage who say class sizes are a concern: 54.8 per cent.
- Percentage who say professional development is a concern: 31.7 per cent.
- Percentage who say tenure is a concern: 31.6 per cent.
- Percentage who say peer or mentor support is a concern: 28.2 per cent.

Source: AEU National Beginning Teacher Survey, 2007.

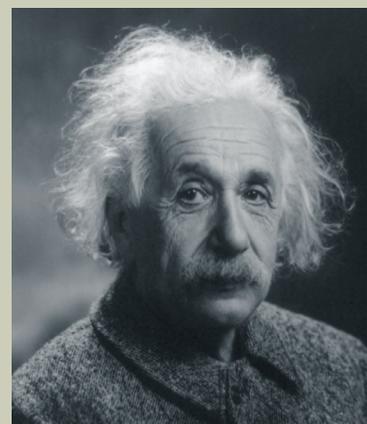
**QUICK QUIZ**

1. In what category did the Glenwood Public School film, *Heat It Up: Global warming*, win in the 2007 EnhanceTV ATOM Awards?
2. What film did Glenwood Public School students take to the inaugural Trop Jr competition finals this year?
3. Which school bought Melbourne arthouse icon, the Astor Cinema?
4. What was unusual about the promotion this year of Natthu Dashrath Gaikwad in Chandrapur, Maharashtra?
5. What percentage of respondents in the national online survey, Staff in Australia's Schools, think higher pay based on competence or extra qualifications would retain teachers?
6. What's the coolest thing about two of the pyramids in a game on ancient Egypt created by students using Kahootz software?
7. Who said 'No man is an island'?
8. Does the right not to be photographed exist in Australian law?
9. Is 'parent' a verb?
10. Is 'verse' a verb?

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

*Most teachers waste their time by asking questions... to discover what a student does not know, whereas the true art of questioning has for its purpose to discover what the student... is capable of knowing.*

ALBERT EINSTEIN, 1879-1955,  
THEORETICAL PHYSICIST



Answers: 1. Best Junior (K-8) Film Video Production; 2. Free, Free At Last; 3. Melbourne's St Michael's Grammar School; 4. the former education extension officer had died in 2007; 5. 70 per cent; 6. two kids use it, but email *Teacher* if you think 'verse' is a synonym for 'challenge' - we're happy to be versed on this one.