



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## SCHOOLS ACT UP FOR \$10,000

Nine local primary schools are in the running to win \$10,000 as part of a short film competition, with the winner to be voted by the public.

Hunter Water's 'Water Catchers' competition invited schools from throughout the Lower Hunter to create scripts and storyboards inspired by Water Wise Rules, with nine finalists selected to have their films professionally shot.

Students starred in the films, with story themes including Water Wise 'raps' and young Water Wise police enforcing the rules on the street.

Hunter Water's Manager of Public Affairs Jeremy Bath said the competition was a fun way to raise awareness of the rules among primary school aged students.

"We've shared a few of the finalists' videos around the Hunter Water office and everyone has been really impressed by the students' scripts and enthusiasm.

"By learning the rules and why water is important, students become little 'Water Wise' champions around the house, making sure mum, dad, grandma and grandpa all do the right thing and in the process save water.

"The finalists' videos are online and available to the public to watch and vote for their favourite, so we're encouraging people to show their support and help a local school win \$10,000.

"Voting is open until 21 November, with the winning school announced at a gala viewing night held at the Tower Cinemas, the following week," he said.

Charlestown East Primary School Principal Neil Sneddon said the program has not only taught students about the importance of saving water, but also improved their confidence.

"We've had students that typically get to school right on the bell arrive at 7:30am, buzzing with excitement thanks to this program.

"Having access to a professional film crew encouraging students to act on camera has improved their self-esteem and in some cases, classroom behaviour.

"The \$10,000 in prizemoney would go a long way at our school and we're hoping to get all parents, extended family and locals involved in voting and sharing our video on Facebook," he said.

The nine schools selected for the Water Watchers final are:

Bobs Farm PS  
Cardiff South PS  
Charlestown East PS

Dudley PS  
Eleebana PS  
Floraville PS

Pelaw Main PS  
St Joseph's Merewether  
Tighes Hill PS

The Water Catchers videos can be viewed and voted on at [www.thewatercatchers.com.au](http://www.thewatercatchers.com.au).

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