

13 July 2009

Local Schools Switch Off

Over seventy WA schools are competing to be crowned the biggest energy reducer in Term 3 for the chance to win a PV Solar Power System for their school worth over \$12,000.

They are competing in Switch Off, a school-based energy reduction competition, which is one of the biggest of its kind in the State.

Sponsored by Synergy and Solar Shop Australia, Switch Off was created by two Perth year 11 students from La Salle Jessica Gill and Laura Ryan.

Synergy Head of Corporate Affairs, Andrew Gaspar, said with over 70 schools taking part in the competition it is a great way for students to learn about energy efficiency.

"Switch Off gives students the opportunity to learn about energy efficiency in a fun way and shows how small actions, such as turning off the lights when you leave the room, can make a big difference to energy bills," said Andrew.

"The competition is timely given the recent rise in energy prices and is a great way for schools to start thinking about their impact on the environment while at the same time saving energy, money and reducing emissions."

Solar Shop Australia spokesperson Liam Hunt, whose company donated the major prize, said that the competition will highlight the benefits of combining energy efficient habits with renewable energy sources, like solar power.

"Energy efficiency will increasingly become an important part of everyday life as we move towards a greater reliance on renewable energy sources such as solar power," Liam said.

"Switch Off will teach the students how easy it is to reduce electricity consumption and develop new practices that will remain with the individuals long after the competition has finished."

A leader board will be on the Synergy website synergy.net.au/switchoff to keep track of how schools are progressing throughout the competition.

The winning school will be the one with the biggest percentage drop in daily energy consumption over the competition period. The winner will be announced in October.

Media Contact

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The following schools have entered the competition:

Albany Senior High School	Kalamunda Senior High School
Anzac Terrace Primary School	Kelmscott Primary School
Applecross Primary School	Kingston Primary School
Applecross Senior High School	Kojonup District High School
Australind Senior High School	Lake Gwelup Primary
Badgingarra Primary School	La Salle College
Balga Senior High School	Little Grove Primary
Banksia Park Primary	Lockridge Primary School
Beehive Montessori School	Lynwood Senior High School
Bolgart Primary School	Mandurah Senior College
Boyup Brook District High School	Manning Primary School
Bramfield Park Primary School	Mullewa District High School
Bull Creek Primary School	Nannup District High School
Bullsbrook District High School	Narrogin Senior High School
Bunbury Cathedral Grammar	Palmyra Primary School
Canning Vale Primary School	Pinjarra Road Primary School
Clarkson Primary School	Prendiville Catholic College
Cunderdin District High School	Quairading District High School
Deanmore Primary School	Quinns Beach Primary School
Donnybrook District High School	Riverside Primary School
Duncraig Primary School	Riverton Primary Campus
East Manjimup Primary School	Rossmoyne Primary School
Eddystone Primary School	Sacred Heart
Ellenbrook Christian College	Saint Maria Goretti's Primary School
Ellenbrook Secondary College	Singleton Primary School
Eneabba Primary School	South Fremantle Senior High School
Falcon Primary School	St Brigids School
Geraldton Grammar School	St Denis School
Glen Forrest Primary	St Jeromes Primary School
Herne Hill Primary	St Simon Peter Catholic Primary
High Wycombe Primary	St Vincent's Primary School
Highgate Primary School	Tammin Primary School
Hollywood Primary School	The Quintilian School
Iona Presentation College	West Leeming Primary School
Jarrahdale Primary School	Westminster Junior Primary School
Jurien Bay District High School	White Gum Valley Primary School