



The work you do - day in, day out - is life-enhancing, life-changing. It is also often hard and exhausting - I know that. I've done it. But I know it can be hugely rewarding too. There are days when it feels like the best job in the world, and days when it feels ... well, not like that at all.

I am writing to you to congratulate you and to thank you. For a child to have a great teacher like you is so important. You open doors, shine a light. You spend your working life passing on to children all that you know and love. Your devotion to them, to colleagues, to the schools you work in has been extraordinary.

If I had a trumpet to blow or bells to ring out, then that would be wonderful. But I have only this pen and these words to celebrate your achievements, to express my admiration. So, bravo you, bravo!

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Morpurgo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Michael Morpurgo
President of the Teaching Awards