



**A life's work:** Doug Rawling with Michael Nguy and David Nguyen at the 2007 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Presentation.

## Valued teacher retires

By **Michael Chammas**

FOR the first time in 31 years, Fairvale High School students will return from holidays without teacher Doug Rawling.

The 63-year-old who spent most of his teaching career at Fairvale has had to retire after struggling to continue his duties while battling prostate cancer.

The school's first and only head teacher is disappointed he has to leave.

"I have given my life to the school," Mr Rawling said.

"I wanted to stay in the

classroom because I love teaching."

Mr Rawling leaves behind a legacy that will stay with the students for years to come.

He coached the rugby league team and established the student council.

However, he said nothing brought him more joy than the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme which he coordinated for more than 30 years.

Mr Rawling was also given a National Excellence Award for teaching in 2002, placing him among the top 200 teachers.