

December 2018

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Janiece Traeger

**For services to Lutheran schooling
1987 – 2018**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Janiece Traeger to Lutheran education over a period of more than 32 years.

Janiece's connection to Good Shepherd Lutheran School at Para Vista SA began in the late 1970s when the Good Shepherd site was a horse paddock and the school and church a dream of the Para Vista congregation. Janiece and her husband spent many years at working bees constructing the site with her special interest in the gardens. Janiece spent time watering the garden beds around the school to keep them alive through many a hot summer before the school employed maintenance staff.

In 1987 Janiece joined the staff at Good Shepherd as Learning Support Teacher and then Coordinator. She has been thoughtful, warm, loyal, caring, kind, and compassionate, always going above and beyond to help students, families and staff. Her calm wisdom and leadership has grown and shaped many individuals and our school community.

Janiece is a lifelong learner, always looking for the best ways to support children. She studied to become a Reading Recovery teacher and has supported many of our younger students in their first steps in reading and writing. Janiece has been a leader in her sphere of influence, always looking for ways to improve practice and has been instrumental in shaping the literacy program across the school throughout her time at Good Shepherd.

Janiece has always had a motto of working from 'what students can do' rather than a deficit model, long before Positive Psychology advocated for this.

When Restorative Practice was introduced to the school, Janiece took this to heart and has diligently upheld the RP process, calmly and kindly supporting many students through disputes and behaviour difficulties, always focusing on restoring relationships.

Janiece is a faith-filled woman of God and each Friday sees her behind the sound desk in Chapel. She has also spent many hours supporting the musicals and concerts over the years in this capacity.

Janiece's commitment to her Lord has been central to all she has undertaken. Her faithful and conscientious service to the Lutheran Church of Australia, through her service in Lutheran education has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

**Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

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