

November 2017

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Diane Butcher

**For services to Lutheran schooling
1993-1998 and 2000-2017**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Diane Butcher to Lutheran education for 24 years.

Diane commenced her service in Lutheran education in 1993 when she joined the staff of Trinity Lutheran College, Ashmore Qld, as an administrative assistant. She served at Trinity for six years. In 2000, Diane was appointed to the staff at Luther College, Croydon Vic, where she served until her retirement in 2017.

Two of the most desirable qualities that Luther College values are professionalism and servant leadership. These were modelled impressively by Diane in her role as Middle School Secretary, which she held since the inception of the Middle School itself. In her many and varied duties, she worked supportively alongside and in close association with the Heads of Middle School, Greg Houghton, Peter Ridgwell and Rik Malone respectively. She was also closely involved with Middle School Year Level Coordinators and teachers, as well as the Bursar/Business Manager. Her duties encompassed those of receptionist, secretary and first aider.

Words used to describe Diane include organised, efficient, friendly, humble, cheerful, positive and respectful. She dealt kindly and efficiently with staff and students alike. Her calmness in a crisis, integrity and sense of humour were welcomed and admired by all with whom she came into contact.

Central to Diane's personality were her loyalty and Christian commitment to her specific work area and to the college as a whole. She was patient and trustworthy, always willing to learn – a good team player who was constantly prepared to go the extra mile for both staff and students. In fact, her chief challenge was learning to say no! For many, she was seen to be 'the mother of the Middle School', looking out for the welfare of the people around her. Young students particularly, knowing her concern and compassion, appreciated her warmth and sensitivity and felt comfortable in approaching her with their issues. Truly an asset to the Middle School.

Diane will be missed by all at Luther who have been privileged to know you. The Luther College community has greatly appreciated her dedicated and wishes her a long and satisfying retirement with time to do things that give you joy and contentment.

Diane's faithful and conscientious service to the Lutheran Church of Australia, through her service at Luther College, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

**Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

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