

June 2022

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Mark Manson

**For Service to Lutheran Education
1990– 2022**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Mark Manson to Lutheran education for almost 32 years.

Mark Manson commenced at St Peters Lutheran College, Indooroopilly in 1990 and has served faithfully and diligently until his retirement in June 2022.

Mark commenced at St Peters as Sportsmaster (Head of Sport). In this demanding role Mark was responsible for the leadership and development of St Peters extensive co-curricular Sports Program. The Sporting Program under Mark's direction flourished, and he was instrumental in creating an environment in which young people could thrive and excel in their chosen activity. The breadth and depth of St Peters Sport grew significantly under Mark, and the already strong sporting reputation of the College reached even greater heights, with numerous QGSSSA and TAS premierships, as well as State and National Sporting Titles added.

After a successful tenure as Sportsmaster, Mark moved into a Pastoral Care Leadership role as a Year Level Coordinator in the Senior School (Years 10-12), a role he held until his retirement. Motivated by a desire to grow young people and help them realise their potential as fine young St Peters people, Mark excelled in providing each young person with equal amounts of structure and care. Over time Mark help create a number of traditions and rites of passage, that have added to the richness of a student's journey through the Senior School.

As the nature of education and society changed over time Mark was able to adapt in order to best meet the needs of the students in his care. For example, he was at the forefront of Restorative Practices at St Peters.

One of Mark's legacies has been his mentorship of younger staff, investing in them and helping them to emerge as the next generation of leaders in our schools. His sense of humour helped to lighten the staffroom and will be missed by many colleagues.

Mark's deep Christian Faith is evident in all that he does. His 'On the Couch with Manso' reached iconic status at St Peters and was a powerful vehicle for Mark to share his faith as some of the bigger and more important issues in life were discussed at Year level Assemblies.

Upon announcing his retirement Mark remarked that he had received more from St Peters than he had given – a remarkable statement for someone who has given a Plus Ultra Effort to the College over such an extended period. In the words of Matthew 25:23 'Well done good and faithful servant'.

Mark's faithful and conscientious service to his Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through his service in Lutheran education, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

**Assoc Prof Lisa Schmidt
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

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