

December 2022

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Melanie Ryan

**For service to Lutheran education
1986 – 2022**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Melanie Ryan to Lutheran schools for 36 years.

Melanie has been involved in Lutheran education since 1986 at St John's Lutheran Primary School, Portland. Melanie has worked as a junior primary teacher where her artistic creativity and flair has shone. She has created many Art memories around the school including the murals on the decking, the colourful entrance artwork, student fence boards and organising the annual Art Alive event.

Melanie is remembered by many past and present students and families for her tireless support to the children in her class, her patience and genuine love for teaching. For those who have worked with Melanie, remember her as a gentle and generous person with boundless patience, dry sense of humor, and creativity.

Education obviously runs deep in Melanie's family as her mother was a Primary School teacher, and now her daughter Kirby, is also a teacher. Melanie is a member of the Portland – Heywood Lutheran Church and is highly regarded in our community.

Adults and children throughout the Portland community have been blessed in having her loving and guiding hand lead them through their school years.

Melanie's faithful and conscientious service to our Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through her service in Lutheran education, has been outstanding and is humbly recognized through the Award.

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

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