

December 2022

## LEA SERVICE AWARD

*Janine Schuller*

**For service to Lutheran education  
1996 – 2022**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Janine Schuller to Lutheran education for 26 years.

Janine commenced her service in Lutheran education in 1996 when she volunteered to help in the office of St Paul's Lutheran School, due to a sudden retirement, with a strong desire to help and support the school wherever she could. She originally began working every Wednesday for 3 hours per week. In 1997 her hours were increased to 20 hours per week. By 2014 she had moved to full-time employment. Janine remained working in this capacity until 2021 when she dropped down to four days each week. In 2022 a replacement for Janine was found and she was finally able to enjoy her retirement after what was a much longer period than originally anticipated.

Janine always endeavoured to do her best for St Paul's. In preparation for the role she began developing her typing skills and enrolled in a computer awareness course through the local TAFE. Her children were attending the school at the time she commenced work in the office. Towards the end of her 26 years, she was able to enjoy a year and a half of service with two of her grandchildren attending St Paul's in 2021 and 2022.

Her ability to communicate ensured parents, staff and students all clearly understood the Christian nature of Lutheran education. Janine's own commitment to her Christian faith and her ability to show this through her decision making and daily relationships has been a shining example to many people.

As a member of the St Paul's Henty congregation, her connection to church and school has been unwavering through service, singing, teaching at Sunday School and bridging a connection with church families and the wider community. The St Paul's community has been richly blessed through Janine's many years of service.

Through recent leadership structural changes, Janine's unwavering attitude and service towards St Paul's, and focus on doing all she could, was a tremendous support for many. Janine showed others what genuine servant leadership looked like.

Janine has provided stability, professionalism and a Christian character that has been an incredible asset to St Paul's. Her calm presence has eased many a new student and indeed parents. Janine will be remembered fondly by her colleagues for her caring support. She selflessly gave of her time to ensure staff members felt comfortable and supported. She made sure the transition for new staff joining St Paul's was seamless. She was a welcoming face for parents, where no questions were too much trouble or too difficult to accommodate.

Janine's faithful and conscientious service to her Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through her 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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