

November 2021

## LEA SERVICE AWARD

*John Smith*

**For services to Lutheran schooling  
1976 – 2021**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of John Smith to Lutheran education for 45 years.

John has dedicated his entire career to Lutheran education. After graduating from the Darling Downs Institute of Advanced Education (Toowoomba) in 1976, he joined the staff at Concordia Lutheran Primary, Toowoomba where he served for eight years. In 1985, John accepted a teaching position at Good Shepherd Lutheran Primary School, Para Vista in South Australia, a position he continued until 1988.

When the opportunity to serve at a new primary school arose John was prepared to accept the challenge of developing St John's Lutheran Primary School, Kingaroy. He faithfully and conscientiously served as a teaching principal from 1989 until 1999.

John returned to Toowoomba in 2000, but this time to Martin Luther Primary School. In 2001, John moved to Caboolture to commence teaching at St Paul's Lutheran Primary School where he taught for the next 21 years until his retirement.

This reflects an amazing dedication to teaching, spanning a period of 45 years. An incredible number of young lives have been touched by John over the years.

John established a strong rapport with the students. Fairness and justice were always two important components in John's teaching. He did not play favourites but treated everyone in an equal respectful manner.

John possessed strong organisational skills. He provided his students with a structured atmosphere in order to learn effectively. Over these years, John has seen many changes to education. His classrooms ran smoothly and productively due to the high level of organization.

John will be remembered by his colleagues for his sense of humour and his courage and determination. John never backed away from giving something a go. He will also be remembered by his array of brightly coloured socks.

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

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

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