

December 2017

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Chris Ruediger

For services to Lutheran schooling 1979 – 2017

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Chris Ruediger to Lutheran schools for 39 years.

Chris commenced his service in Lutheran schools in 1979 when he was appointed to the staff at Bethania Lutheran Primary School in Queensland. In 1986 he accepted a 'call' (a system now only used for pastors) to teach at Lobethal Lutheran School in South Australia. Chris served continuously at Lobethal until mid 2017.

During his many years at Lobethal, apart from classroom teaching, Chris guided the school in a variety of administrative roles, leading areas such as sport, Behaviour Management, Assistant to the Principal, even taking on the role of Acting Principal for twelve months during 1993 and at various other times during long service leave periods.

Chris models servant leadership. A key component of his rosters was a column titled *serving others*, an inclusion that emphasises the prime motivation that has underpinned his entire career. Chris is a caring, dedicated professional who showed genuine interest and concern for the welfare of all in the school community – students, their families and his colleagues. He will be remembered for his warmth and generosity.

Chris has taught many students over the years. He taught them all how to be organised and creative, and to aim for their personal best and build upon innate curiosity. Students come out of his class well prepared to take the next step in their learning journey.

Chris' Christian values have been clearly evident in all his relationships at the school. He demonstrated on a daily basis the loyalty, integrity and service mindset that Lutheran schools are built on.

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

Stephen Rudolph Executive Director Lutheran Education Australia

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