

December 2022

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Debbie Schultz

**For service to Lutheran education
1984 – 2022**

Lutheran Education Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Debbie Schultz to Lutheran Education for 39 years.

In 1990 Debbie began teaching at St Mark's, just 8 years after St Mark's began. She has been an integral part in the growth and development of St Mark's from a small beginning to all it is today, daily living our ethos and values in her words and actions. Debbie served students, families and staff for 39 years completing her outstanding service to Lutheran Education in May 2022.

As Miss Schultz taught our youngest Foundation and Year 1 students, she became known for her unique and special bond she formed with students. Each year her students became her second family. Besides providing a solid grounding in academics and a wonder for the beautiful world God created, Debbie grew people. She unconditionally accepted all students as they were, cared for them deeply and nurtured them into their best versions of themselves.

Debbie's connections to her students are so remarkable that she can put a name to a face years after she taught them and remember with amazing clarity an anecdote and memory of their time in her class. Her face lights up when asked about a former student and she is able to recall a memory and description. Debbie has been a generational teacher, having taught more than one generation of many families, along with current staff members.

Debbie is highly regarded and held dearly for her gentle demeanour, her unwavering commitment to provide the best she can for her students and her faithful witness to her faith. St Mark's may never fully appreciate the impact Debbie has had on the lives of these young people.

Debbie'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 recognised through this Award.

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

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