

Impressions

CONNOLLY PS school officer Christine Petrides describes her role as 'director of first impressions', among other things.

A typical day embraces staff administration, handling queries from parents, students and the P&C, managing the MessageYou SMS system, processing lesson attendance, and creating newsletters and other marketing publications including an enrolment package and PowerPoint presentation for prospective families.

Principal Geoff Smith said Christine built a positive working relationship with all members of the school community and was valued by everyone.

Parents value the people who look after their children and want staff who are caring, approachable and highly competent," he said.

Christine is all of these things and much more. Her people skills are exceptional and she is able to connect with all members of the community on a personal and positive level."

"I enjoy the fact that every day is different," said Christine.

"I have a great deal of contact with all the students at the school and feel privileged to be a part of their schooling life. The rapport among staff at Connolly PS is brilliant and certainly contributes to my enjoyment of the role."

Involved with the school since 1991 when her eldest daughter was in pre-primary, Christine was always volunteering as a parent helper and later ran the school's netball club.

She then worked as a relief school officer and became a qualified education assistant at Connolly PS before becoming the school officer in 2006.

"For someone to value my contribution enough to take the time to nominate me for the award was just wonderful in itself," Christine said.

"The acknowledgement which comes with the award creates the opportunity to promote and celebrate the high quality of our staff to the wider community."

