



# World Teachers' Day QLD

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worldteachersday.com.au

Teaching – where the future begins

## All roads lead to teaching

Shantelle Janek, a Junior School Teacher at Somerville House, didn't take a direct route into teaching but, for her, teaching is not just a job. It's a career that fills her with purpose.

"I've been at it full time for four years now," Shantelle said.

"Teaching wasn't my first profession, I worked as a beauty therapist, accounts clerk and in administration roles before I found my way into education.

"Working in education enables me to instill change, motivate reluctant learners and nurture the self-esteem of those around me."

Shantelle shares her own failures and successes with her students.

"I model learning behaviours and strive to prioritise and value growth over perfection," she said.

"Teaching is my career, but it is much more than a job. My students inspire me to grow and learn every day. I am in an incredibly rewarding profession."

Shantelle says the gratification of witnessing her students master new skills and embrace their creative sides makes teaching rewarding.

"Knowing that I can guide my students to achieve great success is what inspires me to teach every day," she said.

"Seeing students build a new skill, learn from their mistakes, and take learning further with their own creative spin feels amazing."

Her teaching journey has been peppered with memorable moments.

"My most treasured memories are of the small moments when my students are engaged and excited about the task at hand," she said.

"Laughter while playing a subtraction game, concentrated faces as they construct something new, kind assistance to their peers while they navigate an unknown task – these are all magical moments."

Shantelle's advice for those considering teaching is grounded.

"Teaching is about more than lesson plans. If you're passionate about sharing knowledge and making a positive impact, teaching could be your calling," she said.

"The teaching industry is always evolving and the curriculum with it.

"My favourite aspect of my career is that every day is unlike the first and there really is no limit to what students can achieve."

**Shantelle Janek**  
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