## **2023 Catholic Education Week**

Award Night Mass and Dinner: Friday, 26th May, 2023

## **Diocese of Ballarat**

Thank you for awarding me the Catholic Education Leadership Award, 2023. I was humbled and quite overwhelmed to know that others felt I was deserving of such an honour. I thank those who nominated me.

We go through life following our vocations and doing our best to listen to God and understanding what we are being called into. We constantly ask ourselves: How can we make a difference? Many times, we will never know how we have impacted others. My 'INSPIRATION' was not only my parents but Fr. Leo Donnelly. A man of faith, humility, courage, and great love for the marginalised. We can all 'INSPIRE' our young people to make a difference. It is up to each of us to see the possibilities within those young people, supporting and nurturing them on their journey towards adulthood.

I thank my dear husband Luke who is always there for me, supportive and loving.

I thank Mr. Mark Gibson, the Principal of Sacred Heart School and I thank the staff who make up a wonderful community of colleagues. Congratulations to all those receiving recognition tonight. Our work with children, families, parish communities, staff and beyond is a privilege. I am thankful for all that has been and look forward to all that will be!

With a grateful heart,

**Marion Guthrie**