



Author Online at SIDE

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WA School Library Association
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Term 2 already, and in education, as with much of the world and society, change is happening. Hopefully, you will all enjoy the content of this edition of ic3, with its diverse content, focussing on the library world, the classroom, library staffing issues, and how we can best prepare our students for life.

Technology changes. That is fact. And just as we can say that much of the content taught will be obsolete, so too, the technology will be obsolete. We need to remember that the technology is the tool, and tools change, and improve, and become cheaper, and then become, in some instances, obsolete. And we cannot predict when this will happen. We just need to be ready for it, and be preparing ourselves for what those changes might be, and how they will improve our lives. Those changes could be for life events as in new medical technologies, or our access to information, to better inform us as we proceed through life, proceed through our education, proceed through the as yet unknown.

This year we continue to have a print copy of ic3, and WASLA hopes that you will continue to enjoy reading about your workplace, your colleagues, your future.

Val Baird, Editor

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- Val Baird
- Dr Barbara Combes
- Rebecca Murray
- George Diek

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From the President's desk

Welcome to 2019. As usual personnel in schools have had an extremely busy start to the year. Support in government schools for students and teachers is being further eroded with the closure of more libraries, TLs being sent back to the classroom and library officers being seconded to administrative duties outside the library. A lack of understanding by Principals of why the library is there in the first place is becoming an all too common feature of new from schools. Apart from the school infrastructure and the staff, the library is the next largest investment and resource owned by the school. A school library is an important resource in a school for the following reasons.

- The library prevents double-ups of resources as there is one assessment and buying point in the school. All teaching resources should go through the library for cataloguing, processing and strengthening and for loan. This way there is a record of all resources being bought by the school and more importantly, where they are or should be located. Using the library as a central resource is a major cost saving process and = maximum bang for your buck!

- The library provides a repository for all information relating to resources purchases by the school, including a range of equipment and resources types, including subscriptions to databases and information for insurance purposes. The automated catalogue can be used as a secure database that allows for the easy collection of data for audit purposes.

- Professional staff in the library provide curriculum planning support and teaching expertise to assist with reading and literacy, and information literacy learning outcomes. The TL, library technicians and officers ensure good management of the resources purchased by the school and equitable access to resources and information (print, non-print, online) for ALL students. With falling literacy and numeracy scores in NAPLAN tests around Australia, the lack of professional staff and even a library is of great concern.

- The library is also a place of safe haven in a school where students can go to escape the rigors of the schoolyard. It is also a social place for students and teachers. The idea of the silent library managed by a dragon lady in a twinset and pearls disappeared 50 years ago. Libraries are dynamic spaces where clubs, makerspaces, coding workshops, debates, art displays and author talks/ workshops (to name a few), are now the norm rather than the exception.

Principals who close their libraries or short-change their staff and students by cutting professional staff, will lose money, resources and introduce inequity into their schools. Having a well-stocked and professionally staffed school library can make a huge difference to the educational outcomes of the school, as shown by over 50 years of research. It is interesting that the decline of literacy and numeracy in Australian schools has coincided with the decline of libraries and professional staff in government schools. The independent school sector presents a picture that is the opposite of the government school sector. In the independent school sector the library is used to market the school and the support services offered to teachers and students. This message needs to get out to the parents in your school. Research shows there is a clear and direct link between the achievement of successful student learning outcomes, and higher literacy and numeracy rates, when there is a fully staffed library in a school that is used by all teachers and students, and promoted by the Principal and Executive.

WASLA's 2019 Awards were presented at the first professional learning event held at "the Circle", Reid Library, University of Western Australia (UWA). Congratulations to the TL of the Year, Felicia Harris from SIDE and the Library Officer of the Year, Yvonne Smillie from John Curtin College of the Arts. A new award was presented this year, the School Library of the Year team award. Congratulations to Scotch College, the inaugural winners of this award. The WASLA Awards recognise people in school libraries who make a difference to students, teachers and school communities through their tireless energy, dedication and passion. I urge everyone to think about nominating either yourself or someone you know who is doing a great job. Awardees receive a cash prize, a framed certificate and a trophy, plus recognition of their work to their Principal. The Awards are an opportunity to raise the library's profile and promote your library and the library staff to your school community. Many thanks to Natasha Georgiou (Vice President) and the WASLA Awards Committee for their dedication and hard work which make these awards possible.

The awards were followed by a presentation by the Associate University Librarian, Glynis Jones, who looked closely at the attributes new students need to be successful at university. First year student attrition rates have traditionally been high and universities have been working consistently for many years to provide new students with support

From the President's desk

to make the transition between high school and university smoother. This is an ongoing issue that is compounded by the introduction of wholly online courses that introduce a different teaching-learning dynamic and environment to students who may have only experienced education in a face-to-face classroom. The presentation was followed by a tour of the Reid Library facilities at UWA. A maximum of 70 spaces were available for this event and all seats were taken.

WASLA continues to working with a number of groups including the School Library Coalition, the School Library Association Victoria, Libraries WA and Records and Information Management Professional Association (RIMPA), the International Association of School Libraries (IASL) and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). Working with these organisations and groups fosters and develops advocacy programs for schools and school libraries across Australia. WASLA representatives will be heading to Adelaide in May to participate in the School Library Coalition face-to-face meeting. The Coalition website can be located here: <https://studentsneedschoollibraries.org.au/>. The Literacy Matters! Website (a collaboration between IFLA literacy and Reading Section and WASLA) can be found here www.literacymatters.org.au

Another group that has close ties to WASLA is the Professional Teaching Council of Western Australia (PTCWA). Each year a teacher/ person is nominated to receive a state award that celebrates work done outside of the school for the teaching profession. The 2018 Award went to Ms Sarah Betteridge who leads the WASLA Social Media sub-committee. Sarah has made an outstanding contribution as the Social Media Coordinator where she leads a sub-committee who manage, monitor and contribute to the WASLA Facebook group page and the WASLA Twitter account. These social media resources provide WA school library staff and teachers with easy access to information about resources (online and print), articles, photographs infographics and news. Many thanks to Sarah and her team for providing WA school libraries with these social media resources.

As usual, 2019 looks like being another busy year for library staff in WA schools. WASLA's next professional learning event will be a Birds of the Feather PD and will focus on what is happening in primary schools. It will follow the established BoF format – a half-day seminar on a Saturday, with short information/ taster sessions, followed by morning tea

and practical workshops. So keep an eye out on on WASLANet for more information and save the date.

I look forward to sharing a busy and productive year with all our members and friends of school libraries in WA, and thank the Committee in advance for their passion and commitment.

Dr Barbara Combes
President WASLA

Don't forget to join the Western Australian School Library Association's closed Facebook group by request and follow us on Twitter @WASLApIn.

Social Media Accounts Follow us and interact



Western Australian School Library Association (WASLA) Closed Group that can be found at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/812877622171734>



Follow WASLA on Twitter at:

<https://twitter.com/WASLApIn>

@WASLApIn

Sarah Suggests: Online Inspiration: Websites, blogs, podcasts and social media

From our wonderful committee person responsible for all things in the social media world.

Lucas Maxwell's blog:

Glenthorne High School Library
<https://glenthorneirc.blogspot.com/?m=1>

Check out Lucas Maxwell's inspiring blog about what he is doing at Glenthorne High School Library in the UK - book reviews, lesson ideas and much more! Don't forget to follow him on Twitter @lucasjmaxwell and Instagram @glenthorne_library for even more inspiration!

Elizabeth Hutchinson's blog:

School libraries: An essential part of our children's education
<https://www.elizabethahutchinson.com>

Elizabeth Hutchinson is a chartered librarian living on Guernsey who blogs regularly about school libraries, school librarians and information literacy. She is an active advocate for school libraries and also runs an online nonfiction book club for librarians wanting to extend their professional reading.

Elizabeth is active on Twitter
@elizabethhutch

Not a Rocking Chair Librarian podcasts by Zoe Midler:

<https://anchor.fm/zoe03>

Podcasts are a great way to extend your professional learning while driving to work and back!

School Library Journal

<https://www.slj.com>

The School Library Journal is an American monthly magazine with articles and reviews for school librarians, media specialists, and public librarians who work with young people. Check out the amazing resources and articles here for more inspiration from the USA.



WASLA Recommends

Students Need School Libraries

A national campaign to raise the awareness of school libraries and their value to students' literacy and learning.

<https://studentsneedschoollibraries.org.au/>

West Australian Young Readers' Book Award

Check out the shortlists for each category for 2019

<https://wayrba.org.au/>

Book Week 2019 (August 17 - 23) Reading is my secret power

<https://www.cbca.org.au/cbca-book-week>

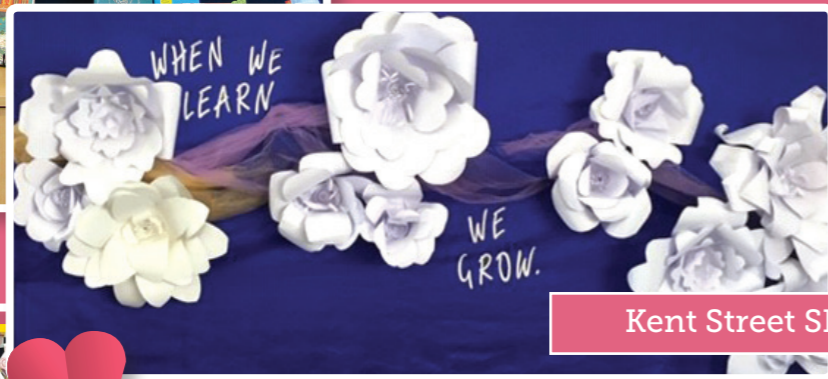
Leonie McIlvenny's Inspired Libraries

<https://inspiredlibraries.weebly.com/>

Celebrating Library Lovers' Day



Kennedy Baptist College



Kent Street SHS



Margaret River High School



Warwick SHS



Santa Maria College



Penrhos Junior School Library

Meet the new committee members

The WASLA Committee has 3 new committee members, who have joined us this year. WASLA is fortunate to have these library personnel join our team, and we welcome them, their enthusiasm and their breadth of knowledge, which is sure to complement our already dedicated members and ensure that WASLA's endeavours this year, are successful. - **Val Baird**



I have been a Teacher for 23 years and a Teacher Librarian for 11 of these years at schools in WA and the ACT. I am the 2019 Teacher Librarian of the Year. I am a 2019 CBCA Book of the Year Awards Judge for Younger Readers, and I was the CBCA BOTYA Judge for the Eve Pownall Award for Information Books in 2015 and 2016. As well as being on the WASLA Committee I am on the CBCA WA Branch Committee where I co-ordinate the CBCA Book of the Year Award Short List Judges Talks.

I love to go to the various author launches and fiction festivals that happen throughout Perth. We are very lucky in WA to have such a rich community of fantastic authors and illustrators in our midst. When I was younger I used to get excited over musicians and bands, now I fan girl over authors and illustrators!

Felicia Harris

I have loved reading since I was a child, and always considered being a librarian. Actually I became a teacher librarian and worked at St Stephen's School for 24 years. I was made redundant and worked in IT which was then related to the library. Now I just work in curriculum with data, and the timetable as well, but am still closely related to all things library. As well as being a WASLA Committee member, I am a Member of the Children's Book Council Committee in WA and, particularly love picture books and all their elements. I am also an 'unpublished' member of SCWBI in WA, the Society of Children's Writers and Book Illustrators.

My four daughters fell in love with reading as well as music and I now have two granddaughters with whom I have a second chance to pass on the love of reading. I love knowing that my four daughters all love and value reading and, as adults, we can suggest books to each other for enjoyment. Reading links all of us together with images and dreams that take us far beyond the daily lives we live. It's so inspiring, uplifting and adventurous.

Sue Stopher



I am the Library Technician at Notre Dame Catholic Primary School, Cloverdale and have been at the school for about 3 years. I have only just transitioned into the library world after I completed a Graduate Diploma in Information and Library Studies at Curtin University in 2015.

Prior to this I was a Primary School Teacher for 10 years in the Northern Territory and Queensland. It was during this time that I grew jealous of the librarian who could purchase such amazing books for the library and support teachers with their "know how". I am proud to be a committee member of the Western Australian School Library Association and during this time I hope to support and learn from other library professionals. When I am not busy in the library - I enjoy bush walking, gardening and reading a good book.

Sarah Sarmardin

Celebrating Ten Years of Author Online at SIDE

The School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE) recently celebrated its centenary 1918 - 2018. How times have changed from the WA Correspondence School set up in small premises in St George's Terrace, Perth in September 1918 to the online school currently



Authors and illustrators, mostly Western Australian but including some from other parts of Australia have presented online sessions to students from Pre Primary to Year 12. The program encourages literature appreciation and engagement and provides the students with a wonderful opportunity to learn from and interact with published authors and illustrators. The teacher librarians work in consultation with learning areas such as English and HASS to plan, organise and present the program. Our first visitor was Julia Lawrinson in 2008 and in 2018 we hosted Leigh Hobbs, Meg McKinlay, James Foley, Kylie Howarth and Mike Lefroy.

Overall we have hosted forty-four online sessions across the ten years. During that time most authors have presented from SIDE in Leederville while others such as Gail Jones presented remotely from her university office in Sydney while Dianne Wolfer presented from her home in Albany. During the course



of the program three Australian Children's Laureates have been part of our program - Morris Gleitzman, Boori Monty Pryor and Leigh Hobbs. It has been a privilege to welcome a number of the artists back for multiple presentations, including Mark Greenwood, Frane Lessac, Norman Jorgensen, Mike Lefroy and Meg

McKinlay. We have been honoured to have award winning authors such as Kim Scott, AJ Betts and Craig Silvey present to a range of ages, enthuse a love of literature and support students in the writing process.

**Liz Allen
SIDE Library**

based at its Leederville premises. The SIDE cohort consists of students at a distance in WA, Australian travellers, overseas based students, elite dance and sport students and school based students whose schools cannot provide for particular learning areas. The SIDE Centenary provided the Library Resource Centre with an opportunity to showcase its work with both free standing and interactive digital displays. These were viewed by about 350 visitors who attended the special centenary open day on 16th November 2018. One area that SIDE Library Resource Centre focussed on and presented was our Author Online Program which has operated successfully for ten years 2008 -2018. The program was originally initiated by then Head of Library Cathy Scott and has subsequently been planned and organised by Helen Willison, now retired, and myself.

WASLA AGM Report

The WASLA Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 14 November 2018, at the Carpe Diem Studio (recently renamed the Faye Gayle Studio), at the University of Western Australia.

This was a combined event with AISWA Libraries and they also held their AGM during this event. An additional dimension was the 2018 awarding of **25 Year Pins** to those library staff who had achieved this milestone, and had been put forward for recognition.

Congratulations, and well done.

The afternoon included an address by Dr Peter Dean, the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) at UWA on the topic of The importance of libraries in education and Ms Jill Benn, the University Librarian and Director of Libraries at UWA discussed how the library is addressing its clients' needs.

Val Baird



Deb Bourke



Cally Black



Jill Oats



Joanna Kagi

25 Year Pin awardees included:

- Joanna Kagi**
Mercedes College
- Darryl Fernandez**
Perth College
- Cheryl Lopez**
Yidarra Catholic Primary School
- Deborah Bourke**
Methodist Ladies College
- Jasleen Singh**
Duncraig Senior High School
- Jill Oata**
Ursula Frayne Catholic College
- Elizabeth Allen**
School of Isolated and District Education
- Cally Black**
Chisholm College



Cheryl Lopez



Liz Allen



Jasleen Singh



Darryl Fernandez



Children's Book Council of Western Australia Annual Night with our Stars - Friday March 8 2019

Members of the WASLA Committee attended this great event held in celebration of all things books – authors and illustrators who have been published in 2018.

From humble beginnings in 2004, the annual A Night with Our Stars has established a well-deserved reputation for being the one night of the year not to miss. With the wonderfully witty and animated Jan Nichols keeping the authors on their toes and on time as the event MC, this event provided an opportunity to network with like-minded colleagues over nibbles and drinks, whilst being entertained by a wide range of some of the very best authors and illustrators that our state has to offer. Described by many as pure entertainment from start to finish, with each author / illustrator allocated three minutes to promote their work, there was some fast and furious talking and just a few nervous authors, who quickly appreciated what an enthusiastic audience awaited them. The demonstrations by the two illustrators mesmerised the audience with the ease with which they created meaning from a few lines on the board and all within just a few minutes. What talent!

A Night With Our Stars, provided a forum for both seasoned and emerging authors, however fleeting, to promote their works to a wide, diverse and enthusiastic audience and as an added bonus, sponsors Westbooks provided the opportunity to receive a 20% discount off all pre-ordered event stock, with the authors lining up to sign their work. There was also

an opportunity to win several raffle prizes. What more could you ask for? This event was made possible by the sponsors Westbooks and Fremantle Press and through the efforts of The WA Branch of the CBCA. Congratulations on another wonderful evening.

Jeff Herd (WASLA Life Member)

For the last few years, I have worked on the 'bar' at A Night with Our Stars. It's a great place to be as everyone is anxious to make their way towards us for their first drink - white, red or sparkling to have with the delicious canapés. It's terrific when someone we know approaches with a friendly hello and a thoughtful look as they survey their wine choices. It's a time to have a quick catch-up until the next guest arrives. It's a fabulous time to catch up with authors and illustrators, reunite with acquaintances from the world of children's books in WA and to meet up with friends. Working as a team to produce such a night is fun with the camaraderie among the committee members.

The obvious friendships and conviviality among the WA creators of high-quality children's literature also adds to the atmosphere of the night. And we wait with eagerness to see what props these 'stars' will bring on the night - A seagull? A duck? A humorous poem? A drawing? A reading? A costume? A trumpet? And, waiting in queues for all those books that are signed for someone special is a pleasure. Everyone together makes it a wonderful night.

Sue Stopher

A night with the stars was a wonderful chance to meet local authors and find out the story behind their stories. It was particularly wonderful to hear Steve Heron read his poem 'Stuff Sucks' from his book Maximus. One author that stood out for me was Meg McKinlay who talked about her new book Catch a Falling Star and how the characters are intrigued with Skylab, the space station which is about to fall back into earth. I like that she has taken a true event and based fictional characters around this event – I didn't even know this happened in 1979! This book is on my MUST READ pile.

Sarah Sarmardin

I really enjoyed the Night with Our Stars - the format was fantastic and each author gave us just enough of a peek into the workings of their very creative minds in their allocated time to leave us wanting more.

Their presentations were varied and engaging. There was a great mix of humour, personal accounts and insight into each author's mind. We gained a greater appreciation about both the book that they were speaking about and the author's personal journey from the early stages

Mike Spanier

ANWOS is always a great night that I look forward to. You get a taste of many children's and young adult authors and illustrators in a two hour buffet of talent. From this event I leave with an idea of which author I would like to invite for an author's visit to my school.

Natasha Georgiou

What a special night with the chance to rub shoulders with real authors. Books have always been an important part of my life living here in Perth, as have movies, but both movie stars, and authors, seemed to almost exist in a different realm. And then we have a plethora of them all at once in the same space, and most of them are West Australians, just like me.

I am in awe of their talent, and in awe of what the Council can achieve for our local community, and for the opportunity it affords the authors, and the readers. Thank you.

Val Baird

Advocating for the best educational experiences for our children

Currently, all school library associations and ALIA Schools are working towards a better education for our children, through ensuring that all schools have functioning school libraries. This is a national initiative, and has garnered support from outside the educational sectors, including authors who continue to produce quality materials to inspire, entertain and excite our young people.

The Students Need School Libraries website provides a starting point for those interested in knowing more about what is happening with this within Australia. It is a very difficult issue nationally, as education comes in many guises, in the various states and territories, and funding differs radically from one school to another, and one sector to another. Coupled with industrial differences and the differential in library staff roles, and pay scales, school libraries are providing diminished services and diminished support to our students.

There are now many in our community who believe that now everyone has access to the internet, the physical collection, and the ability to provide quality, appropriate resources to students through the library, is redundant. Nothing can be further from the truth. Without guidance, and purpose, and a structured approach through the curriculum opportunities to explore the variety of sources to support the educational goals, students will be left doing what they are doing, and not knowing that what they are finding with their internet searching is not the best information. Or even knowing what else to be looking for.

In Western Australia, there has been a reduction in staffing in many school libraries. This has been done in part as a financial imperative. And the question might be, how long this cost cutting can be maintained without impacting on our students' education. In this context, students' education refers to the lifelong learning construct, where we are working on educating students to be independent, and providing a structure whereby they can identify whether the information they have is appropriate, and sufficient to their needs.

Check out the content on the website:
<https://studentsneedschoollibraries.org.au/about/>



WASLA Awards 2019 Presentation



WASLA Awards Presentation and professional learning on the topic of how can we best prepare our students for study at university was held on April 4. This was a joint event with AISWA Libraries, with attendance from members of the WA Library Technicians Group (WALTG).

The event was held in The Circle at the Reid Library and numbers needed to be capped to accommodate a maximum of 70 guests. Members of the groups were present together with the awardees and their guests, family and colleagues.

The afternoon included the presentation of the awards for 2019, hosted by Natasha Georgiou (WASLA Vice-President), and a presentation by Glynis Jones - Associate University Librarian - Library Engagement and Experience on the topic of identifying and skills for student success.

Glynis included details of the pivotal role of the library in a student's success at university and included data on attrition rates, and why students might fail to be successful at university. Glynis listed the skills required for this, and what might be the difficulties encountered by students on first entering university.

Included in the presentation was information on the Communication and Research Skills (CARS) module at UWA - which is compulsory for students. The public can access them via the UWA site - <http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/learning/resources/cars>.

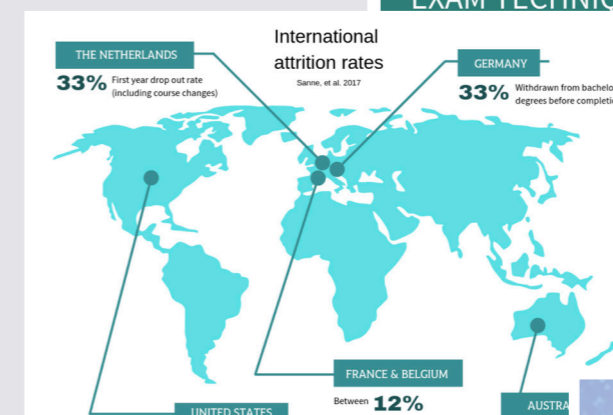
(CARS is published under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike Licence)

A copy of the slides from the presentation is available in the Members Only Section of the WASLA website.



Extracts from Glynis Jones
'Skills for student success'.

- READING & NOTE TAKING
- WRITING SKILLS
- ORAL PRESENTATIONS
- WORKING IN TEAMS
- EXAM TECHNIQUES



-
- ### Top 5 in demand skills according to Seek.com
- 1 Adaptability
 - 2 Analytical thinking
 - 3 Proactivity
 - 4 Empathy
 - 5 Resilience



Teacher Librarian of the Year

Felicia Harris
School of Isolated and District Education

Our Teacher Librarian of the Year has been working as a TL in various schools, both public and private since 2008. Prior to that she was an academic librarian at the University of Western Australia. In her role as a TL she develops library operational plans, policies and procedures, manages budgets and the supervision of staff. She evaluates resources both physical and online and she researches to purchase new resources to foster an inclusive library collection which reflects the needs of students and staff. She collaborates with teachers to develop sustainable resources to support information literacy, including developing online lessons, booklets and inquiry tasks.

Felicia is passionate about literacy and reading. Not only has she developed wide reading programs with English staff, she is currently working with school psychologists to develop a bibliotherapy reading program to address the wellbeing of students in her school. She organises author presentations and recommends books to individual students. She knows a lot about children's books, as she is currently a judge with the Children's Book Council of Australia and a committee member of the WA Chapter of that worthy organisation.

Not only does Felicia volunteer many hours with the CBCA, but she also joined the WASLA Committee this year. She also mentors graduate teacher librarians and library technicians and regularly shares her experiences by presenting at various Professional Learning events and contributes to ic3, the WASLA professional journal.

Her aim is to make the library a safe and welcoming environment where students feel valued, comfortable and supported, and she believes in developing positive relationships with staff, students, parents and community members.

Library Officer of the Year

Yvonne Smillie
John Curtin College of the Art

Our Library Officer of the Year Award has been awarded to a person who has been working in this position in various schools for 10 years. She manages all aspects of the school's library management system and processes all the library's resources, both physical and digital. She sees her primary role as supporting the College's goal of developing creativity, innovation and imagination in every student, by creating attractive displays, organizing the WAYBRA book awards for the school, suggesting resources to be purchased, assisting staff with course resource requirements, recommending books for the College community, demonstrating use of IT resources for staff and students and providing input into the new layout for the Learning Centre. She has also presented whole staff Professional Development on a variety of topics, such as TV4Education, and Books and Bibliotherapy.

Yvonne helps make the Learning Centre a safe and caring place for all and she has an active and positive relationship with students and staff. In her own words, she believes that her "job as a Library Officer is about so much more than lending and returning books. It is also an opportunity for her to shape young minds and to have a positive impact on her students' lives."

School Library Team of the Year

Scotch College

This award is an inaugural one. The WASLA Committee has felt for some time that there needed to be a category that recognised the work of an entire school library team, whose professional practice has a positive impact on student achievement and literacy. Such a library team supports the vision of their school community through advocating and building effective library and information services that contribute to the development of lifelong learners.

This team's focus on inquiry learning which empowers their students. Their students receive dedicated inquiry learning sessions and teacher librarians work alongside teachers to develop and deliver inquiry lessons. The three libraries on campus are perceived by their school community as an integral part of teaching and learning. Parents are also offered



Scotch College Library Team

workshops in accessing the online catalogue, resources and how to write bibliographies.

The library team created the Approaches to Learning Framework (ATL) website that hosts all digital assets relating to each of the 144 individual attributes that make up the skills set. Since the implementation of the ATL hub, there has been increased interaction between the library, staff and students. Teacher Librarians create a comprehensive package of resources to support students' learning, such as curated and differentiated research guides, a OneNote Class notebook allowing independent and collaborative interaction by staff and students, and relevant learning strategies.

The library team also runs the Home Reading and Guided Reading programmes, promoting over 8000 levelled readers to students from Pre-Primary to Year 5. The Library is also an avid promoter of reading and provides topical displays and author visits and workshops.

The students are welcomed into discrete learning spaces with extended hours, including a 24/7 online information service. Both cater for all learners' abilities and learning styles. It is a safe space that is also a venue for co-curricular clubs, staff development and Little Pipers, a 0-3 year old programme that promotes literacy through rhymes and shared-stories.

The team's staff members regularly contribute to the profession via social media networks, the sharing of created resources via waslaNet and presenting at Professional Learning events both State, National and International. The staff also mentor others and have been members of various school library committees over the years.



Felicia Harris



Yvonne Smillie



Children prefer to read books on paper rather than screens

There is a common perception that children are more likely to read if it is on a device such as an iPad or Kindles. But new research shows that this is not necessarily the case.

In a study of children in Year 4 and 6, those who had regular access to devices with eReading capability (such as Kindles, iPads and mobile phones) did not tend to use their devices for reading - and this was the case even when they were daily book readers.

Research also found that the more devices a child had access to, the less they read in general.

It suggests that providing children with eReading devices can actually inhibit their reading, and that paper books are often still preferred by young people.

These findings match previous research which looked at how teenagers prefer to read. This research found that while some students enjoyed reading books on devices, the majority of students with access to these technologies did not use them regularly for this purpose. Importantly, the most avid book readers did not frequently read books on screens.

Why do we think children prefer to read on screens?

There is a popular assumption that young people prefer to read on screens. This was mainly driven by education writer Marc Prensky who in 2001 coined the term "digital natives". This term characterises young people as having high digital literacy and a uniform preference for screen-based reading.

But young people do not have a uniform set of skills, and the contention that screens are preferred is not backed up by research.

Despite this, the myth has already had an impact on book resourcing decisions at school and public libraries, both in Australia and in the US, with some libraries choosing to remove all paper books in response to a perceived greater preference for eBooks.

But by doing this, libraries are actually limiting young people's access to their preferred reading mode,

which in turn could have a detrimental impact on how often they choose to read.

Young people are gaining increasing access to devices through school-promoted programs, and parents face aggressive marketing to stay abreast of educational technologies at home.

Schools are motivated to increase device use, with Information and Communication Technology being marked as a general capability to be demonstrated across every subject area in the Australian Curriculum.

The drivers toward screen-based recreational book reading are strong, but they are not well-founded.

Why are students more likely to prefer paper books?

Reading on devices through an application leaves more room to be distracted, allowing the user to switch between applications.

For students who already experience difficulty with attention, the immediate rewards of playing a game may easily outweigh the potentially longer-term benefits of reading.

Margaret Kristin Merga

Lecturer and Researcher in Adolescent Literacy, Health Promotion and Education, Murdoch University

Saiyidi Mat Roni

Lecturer, Edith Cowan University



Tips for encouraging your child to read

Research shows that reading books is a more effective way to both improve and retain literacy skills, as opposed to simply reading other types of text. Yet international research suggests that young people are reading fewer and fewer books. While equipping children with devices that have eReading capability is unlikely to encourage them to read, there are a number of strategies, supported by research that can help encourage children to pick up a book. These include:

Be seen to enjoy reading. This study found that a number of students did not know if their literacy teachers actually liked reading. Teachers who were keen readers inspired some students to read more often and take an interest in a broader range of books.

Create (and regularly access) reading-friendly spaces at home and at school. Loud noises, poor lighting and numerous distractions will not help provide an enjoyable reading experience, and are likely to lead to frustration.

Encourage regular silent reading of books at school and at home. Giving children time to read at school not only encourages a routine of reading, but it also may be the only opportunity a child has to read self-selected books for pleasure.

Teachers and parents should talk about books, sharing ideas and recommendations.

Continue to encourage your child and students to read for pleasure. While we know that children tend to become disengaged with books over time, in some cases this can be due to withdrawal of encouragement once children can read on their own. This leads children to falsely assume that reading is no longer important for them. Yet reading remains important for both children and adults to build and retain literacy skills.

Find out what your child enjoys reading, and support their access to books at school and at home.

<https://theconversation.com/children-prefer-to-read-books-on-paper-rather-than-screens-74171>

LITERACY MATTERS!

I can read, therefore I am.

I can:

Be smart and become smarter;

Communicate with others in many different ways;

Solve problems, understand and connect with new challenges;

Participate fully in family, workplace and community life;

Use a range of technologies;

Think for myself and with others;

Keep my culture alive;

Share with others on a global stage;

Be creative and understand the complexities of our changing world.

I have the world and beyond at my feet.

I can read, therefore I am empowered and can learn lifelong.

I can read, therefore I am part of the present and the future.

I can read, therefore I am, because ... LITERACY MATTERS!

Developed by the Literacy and Reading Section, IFLA
<https://www.ifla.org/literacy-and-reading>



Interviews

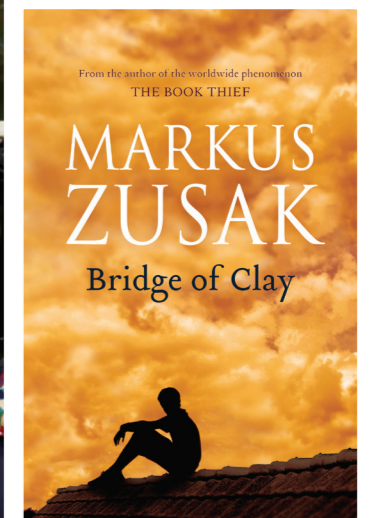
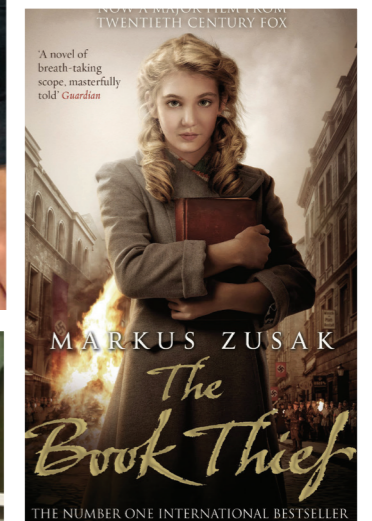
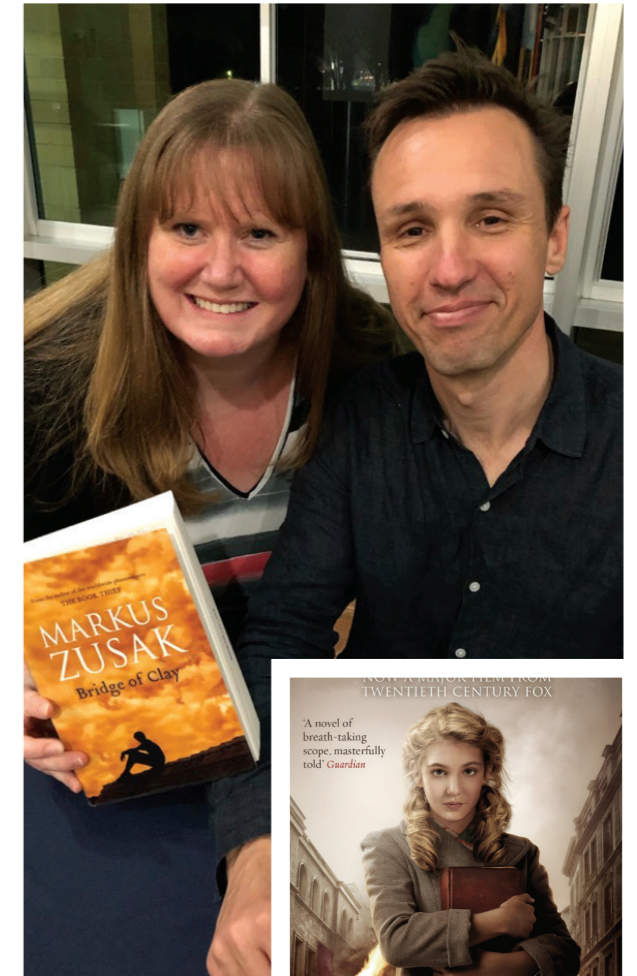
Markus Zusak's Perth visit

Markus Zusak, the author of *The Book Thief*, visited Perth last November to talk about his latest bestseller *Bridge of Clay*. I was fortunate enough to be able to visit him at Hale School. Listening to him in the auditorium I was impressed with how down to earth he is. He is a great storyteller and easy to listen to.

Zusak's six novels have earned him ten years on the New York Times bestseller list and established him as one of Australia's biggest authors. *The Book Thief* has been translated into more than 40 languages and is now a major movie. *Bridge of Clay* took 13 years to write and there was a lot of expectation and pressure that Zusak felt after the popularity of his previous novel. It is a 600 page family saga that is set in Australia but like *The Book Thief*, the book explores the themes of grief, sacrifice, love and shared history.

I like how he recounts that his daughter asked him what he did for a job, as he was always at home and seemingly not doing everything. He did say that it was almost the truth because if you averaged out the number of words in the book with the days it took to write it, he only wrote around 10 words a day! Also, I was touched when he recounted - People are always telling me, thanks a lot; you made me cry on public transport - but believe me, it's nowhere near as bad as I was when I was writing it."

Natasha Georgiou





Interview with Gavin McCormack



My name is Helen Tomazin, Library Technician of Good Shepherd Catholic School, Lockridge WA.

I had the honour of interviewing a very passionate and inspirational man - Gavin McCormack. He is the Principal of Montessori Farm School in NSW. As well as being the Principal, Gavin is a published author of several children's books and a keen philanthropist. He has been nominated twice for Australian of the Year and has been the driving force, and volunteering his time, opening many schools in Nepal. He is a very talented and passionate man who conducts workshops and seminars. He has a passion for education and feels very strongly that all children deserve an education.

I was very keen to interview Gavin as I really enjoy the picture books he has written containing moral messages. His books focus on issues very relevant to today, including friendship, kindness, empathy, acceptance and inclusion. You can find his books here <http://regarded.com.au/>

Gavin is also on Social Media and posts very informative, educational posts not only for educators

but anyone involved in raising children. He provides teaching advice as well as guidance, wellbeing, and classroom management ideas.

I thank Gavin McCormack for this wonderful interview learning about his influences and inspiration. Please enjoy this interview like I did.

1. Tell us something hardly anyone knows about you.

I one arm wrestled a train driver in China to get a seat in the first class carriage for a 72 hour train journey from Kunming to Beijing, and I won.

2. Describe your writing style and inspiration to write.

I write as if I am the main character. I put my heart into my books and I love and breathe every single page of each book. I wanted to change the world by sending the books across the globe. I wanted children to learn valuable lessons about life that would help them navigate the complexities that life will throw at them. My inspiration is change.

3. What book character would you be, and why.

I would be Danny in "Danny the champion of the world". I love the interactions he has with his father, I love the way he is brave and he always relies on the safety of his family, just the way I did.

4. What would your 10 year old self say to you now?

"Do you want to watch Wrestlemania?" As a child I was obsessed with wrestling. My two brothers and I would put all the cushions from the sofa on the floor

and pretend to be famous wrestlers and wrestle. The only problem was, it was 4am in the morning and my dad was not happy.

5. Who or what is your greatest influence?

My mum is a real legend. We grew up together after my dad left and she was my rock. She would always tell me the truth, make me believe that I could be something special and hold my hand everywhere we went. She still does that today although I'm 2 metres tall and make her look tiny. She's my rock, my inspiration for everything I do. I just wanna make her proud of me.

6. Is there anything you are currently working on that may intrigue the interest of your readers.



Yes, I am currently writing a book for parents called "101 ways to raise amazing children." and a picture book about a refugee goat who tries to find refuge in a field filled with buffalo. I am really excited about the parenting book as I really feel it could change the way parents think about what they do at home.

7. If you could read only one book for the rest of your life, what would it be.

"The secret to happiness" by the Dali Lama. It's always in my bag and I read it whenever I am lost.



WHAT A SCHOOL

LIBRARY

CAN DO FOR YOU

The school library can enable students to achieve **better learning outcomes**

The school library is a **welcoming, flexible environment**

Provide equitable access to resources to help communities cater for:

- ▶ individual learning styles
- ▶ varied abilities
- ▶ cultural differences

School libraries help improve students' literacy by offering reading opportunities

School libraries support interdisciplinary learning

- inquiry ▶
- creativity ▶
- reasoning ▶
- reflection ▶
- evaluation ▶
- metacognition ▶



LEARNING

RESEARCH

Teacher-librarians can teach students the information literacy skills framework

READING

Match the right reading experience to the right child at the right time

RESOURCES

Provide a world of resources - local and global, physical and digital

Reading experiences increase **empathy** and **emotional intelligence**

School library spaces can be :

- ▶ active
- ▶ cultural
- ▶ creative
- ▶ quiet
- ▶ collaborative

Reading experiences enrich our knowledge of the wider world

There is a large body of evidence-based research that shows **effective school libraries have a positive impact** upon learning and enrich the lives of their school community

Library staff are the best resource in the library. They can:

- ▶ help plan a unit of work
- ▶ find a resource
- ▶ integrate ICT into teaching
- ▶ curate internet sources
- ▶ teach and promote the ethical use of Information

Provide access to quality reading experiences that foster reading for pleasure



The use of flexible learning space: The Discovery Centre and Library at Joseph Banks Secondary College

The use of the flexible learning space at Joseph Banks Secondary College is a key characteristic of the school's approach to innovative teaching and learning. This approach is apparent in the College's 'Discovery Centre and Library' building where students and teachers have used the Discovery Centre space in a variety of ways. While the development of the library collection itself remains a priority, the collection itself is still small and fledging (the Discovery Centre has only functioned as a library since 2016). More noticeably, it is the creative and flexible use of the Discovery Centre space which has become a focal point for teaching and learning and is indicative of the College's priorities of innovation and inquiry learning.

The ability of the Discovery Centre to switch between 'modes' is one of the most exciting aspects of the space. Within the space of a few weeks, the Discovery Centre can switch between being an interactive Science Centre (similar to SciTech); to a Hollywood Academy Awards Kodak Theatre arrangement for Year 7 English; to an Expo Centre for Personal Projects and Entrepreneurial Market stalls; to a student created Mini Golf course to allow Maths students to demonstrate their understanding of Geometry; to a student version of Parliament House, complete with green seats for the House of Representatives to red seats for the Senate.



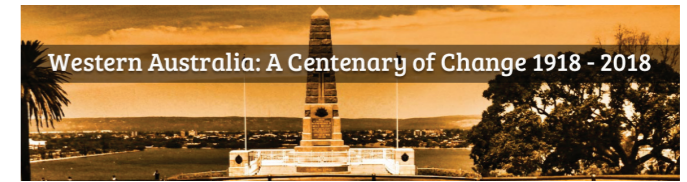
Reconceptualising the Discovery Centre and Library to be more about the use of flexible teaching and learning space and the ability to convert between 'modes' to create interactive and authentic learning spaces for students makes it an exciting place for staff and students alike. With the assistance of the Teacher Librarian and Library Officer to set up the space in consultation with the classroom teachers, every curriculum area and department of Joseph Banks Secondary College has the facility to utilise the Discovery Centre space in an interactive way. This approach helps bring subjects like English, Science and HASS to life to create an authentic and interesting way. Setting up the Discovery Centre to mirror Parliament House is one such example which allowed students to learn about Government and Politics in an interactive way, this bringing the curriculum to life.

As Teacher Librarian Head of the Discovery Centre I look forward every term to working alongside the teachers of all subject areas to collaborate and plan ways in which the use of the flexible learning space in the Discovery Centre to help them meet curriculum goals and genuinely excite and engage students in their learning.

Mike Spanier



A Natural Connection Classroom teaching and your library



As a long-term HASS and History teacher I have a real appreciation of the school library and the resources it provides to support my HASS learning programs. I have over the years spent many an hour with teacher librarians teaching my students inquiry skills.

I remember years ago doing an inquiry task (it was for ICP- now I am showing my age), and the students had to pick a continent and use a variety of research formats to create a presentation. We were using the library and the teacher librarian had shown the students a variety of resources available for them to access for their research. One of the resources was using the encyclopedias (described to them as a bit like google in a book). A few students were quite confused as there were no 'A' encyclopedias only ones with R on the spine! The teacher librarian was able to explain to the students what the 'R' meant and the value of having resources that had authority, were reliable, objective and accurate.

History, and HASS, teachers are often a keen advocate of libraries in our school, we can see the value of teacher librarians and how History education can be supported and promoted by a good teacher librarian. There is a natural connection between the two, we both love quality research, the joy of knowledge discovery and of course the promotion of our student's literacy skills. Historical fiction stimulates students love of history and helps them place into context their understanding of the past. It can also help teach concepts such as perspective, contestability and help student syntheses historical events. (I use to talk to my students about how the last few Harry Potter books were linked to the rise of the NAZIs). I have been saddened that in many of our schools' budget constraints now mean those who need strong school libraries the most no longer have access to them, and that many schools no longer have qualified teacher librarians as one-line budgets has meant that teaching staff are required for the classroom.

Last year the History Teachers Association of Western Australia (HTAWA) produced the Centenary of Change website, in an attempt to squeeze some WA into the HASS curriculum. Information in our community section came not only from local historical societies but also from local librarians and teacher librarians who often have a wealth of knowledge about their communities. Therefore, demonstrating how librarians, teacher librarians and History teachers can work together to achieve common goals. <http://htawa.net.au/WA-100-years/>

At the recent HTAWA Conference we had several sessions that linked school libraries to History/ HASS. Sessions such as 'Curating your resource collection', 'Vroom, Vroom, Vroom - Using digital resources to connect with the past' and 'Measuring Hassapptitude-assessing thinking, skills and abilities'. These sessions were about encouraging inquiry skills, utilising resources and research skills, all skills which qualified teacher librarians are able to provide to support History, and HASS, teachers. Next year in October we have the National History Conference in Perth and I think there will be lots of sessions that teacher librarians will find really interesting, so keep an eye out for the program next year!

Catherine Baron

President

History Teachers Association of Western Australia (HTAWA)

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HTAWA
HISTORY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Book Reviews

Gorski's Bitemare By Robert Favretto



Illustrated by Danny Willis
 ISBN: 9781925804164
 ISBN-10: 192580416X
 Audience: Children 8 +
 Format: Portrait Picture Book
 Format: Paperback
 Language: English
 Number of Pages: 100
 Published: 1st February 2019
 Publisher: Ford Street Publishing Pty Ltd
 Country of Publication: Australia
 Price: \$12.95

Reviewed by Helen Tomazin

Gorski is a vampire who lives with his Mum, Dad and sister. He attends Bat School every day and sometimes not. But one day he goes through a very frightening and life changing event and notices his fangs are shrinking. He also faints at the sight of blood. What is going on? What is he going to do? He is hoping to find a cure, or will things just get worse, or as he might say bat to worse.

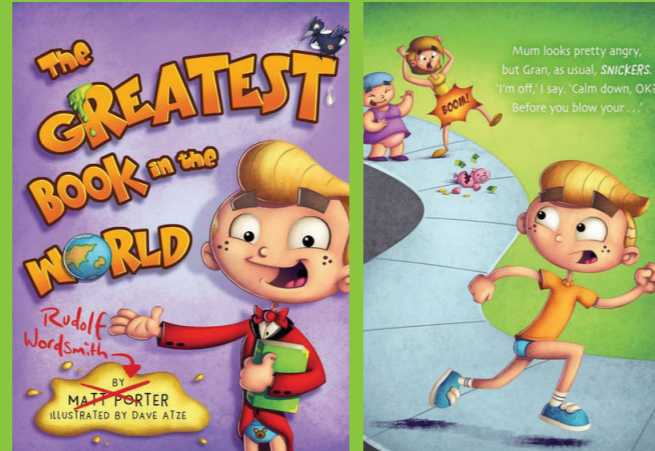
Danny Willis the illustrator uses few illustrations but boy they are good and very expressive!!!! They add humour and fun to this book.



Gorski's Bitemare is a fast paced read, very amusing and the reader is exposed to many puns. Readers and educators will enjoy this book for the teaching of literature as well as reading for enjoyment.

Suitable for middle to upper primary school students.

The Greatest Book In The World By Matt Porter



Illustrated by Dave Atze
 ISBN: 978192804157
 Audience: Children 4 +
 Format: Portrait Picture Book 236mm X 276mm
 Category: Humour and Rhyme
 Language: English
 Number of Pages: 32 Pages
 Published: HC: February 2019
 PB: July 2019
 Publisher: Ford Street Publishing Pty Ltd
 Country of Publication: Australia
 Price: \$24.95

Reviewed by Helen Tomazin

What a funny outrageous read aloud book, perfect for all settings. Read to a group, read one on one, and can be read independently. I am still laughing just thinking about it.

You will not stop laughing and children will be bursting with hysterics. It's a very engaging book as the narrator speaks directly to the readers while aiming to create the greatest book in the world. The main character Rudolf Wordsmith asks the readers to finish each verse with a rhyme and is surprised when the reader is tricked into a rude rhyme. It is a very clever way of writing. This style of writing will encourage children to guess a "rude" word (It's funny rude) to complete a rhyming verse and this leads to humorous situations.

The children will love this book; actually adults will love it too!!!!

The illustrations are brilliant and lively and as we see the "rude" rhymes the illustrations of Rudolf are in humiliating predicaments. It is hilarious!!! The ending will have you and the children laughing so loud you will not be able to stop.

SAVE THE DATE!

2019 LIBRARY CONFERENCE

Joint library (WASLA, ALIAWest, Academic Libraries, Public Libraries, Students and New Graduates & Records) conference.

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2019
STATE LIBRARY OF WA

Keynote speakers on an "intelligent career", how to sell your "service as a brand" and the "art of failure". Plus workshops, morning tea and lunch provided.



BIRDS OF A FEATHER PD

SUITABLE FOR ALL
LIBRARY STAFF



WASLA INC

**Saturday 22 June 2019
8:30AM to 1:00PM**

Sevenoaks Senior College, Cannington

15 minute idea sessions presented by school
library staff plus practical workshops

CALLING FOR PRESENTERS. If you would like to
share what you do in your library to your peers,
please contact **Natasha Georgiou**

**\$10 for WASLA members
\$30 for all others**

