



NATALIE OTTEN

Welcome to the latest issue of *ACCESS*. It has been wonderful to see school libraries open up to families again as some COVID19 restrictions ease across the country. Sharing what we do in our school libraries is a vital part of advocacy. With Book Week celebrations able to proceed face to face this year, it has been wonderful to hear about the amazing celebrations that have taken place. This issue of *ACCESS* has some examples of ideas that you could implement in your school setting for Book Week or other book related celebrations. We also hear from SNSL about the inaugural Australian School Library Day (ASLD). How did you celebrate ASLD in your community?

Also highlighted in this issue are the new board members. The board members continue to work hard advocating for Teacher Librarians and school library staff in every state and territory. ASLA was present at both National Education Summits in 2022 and coordinated with EduTech to plan the Future Forward School Libraries forum. Our attendance at these events enabled us to meet many of you. We heard some amazing stories of how library staff have been engaging learners and working with their

colleagues despite the current situation. Thank you to those members who visited us and gave us some fantastic suggestions and ideas for future webinars and events.

This issue also introduces you to the recipients of our inaugural Early Career Teacher Librarian award and School Library Advocate award. Congratulations to these worthy recipients. I'm sure you will enjoy reading Claire Elliott's article talking about taking a guided inquiry approach to authenticating historical fiction.

As we approach the last quarter of the year, the ASLA board have begun planning the biennial conference to be held during the April school holidays in 2023. We look forward to meeting face to face in Coolangatta, QLD. More details will be announced soon.

Finally, our Special Interest Groups have begun meeting again after a short break. Please email our Executive Officer Judy if you are interested in joining one of these groups.

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