



Destination Information – An opportunity to send home the facts!

Teacher-librarians are committed to making access to information possible for all users and in all schools. Teacher-librarians, or school librarians as they are called in some states, work with teachers and administrators to plan and implement learning programs which will assist students to become information literate.

Many colleagues report that they are increasingly impressed with the information skills demonstrated by secondary students entering high school. All seem familiar with libraries and most are well-versed in using computer information systems. Teacher-librarians report that student expectations are high and they are informed users.

BEYOND THE SCHOOL FENCE

This year's theme provides a timely opportunity to publicly voice the concerns of teacher-librarians. Use the week to highlight the contribution school libraries make in the push towards the clever country. Issues that could be highlighted include:

- The high cost of new technologies – will it disadvantage schools with limited resources?
- Can schools get onto the information superhighway –

can they afford to stay there?

- Integration of information competencies in all curriculum areas.

No-one will deny that equitable access to information is crucial to the democratic process. So now is the time to remind politicians and decision makers that democracy begins in schools!

Closer to the home front teacher-librarians could consider activities such as:

- Introducing Year 6 students to their local high school library by making the trip to *Destination Information*. The travel theme could be woven into activities both en route and in the high school library. Involvement of the HSIE KLA (Human Society and its Environment Key Learning Area) could be effectively employed to add a local studies flavour.
- Involve the peer support program – where Year 10 and 11 students work in tandem with Year 7 students.

Teacher-librarians are playing a vital role in delivering a generation of efficient library users to the nation. And we think that is this country's greatest potential resource!

ALIA School Libraries Section

*T*hank you



Destination Information
With libraries, it's possible.