

December 2016

Each year our organisation, our programs and our resources adapt to meet the needs of families and the early childhood sector. However, the one constant is our message about the importance of regular reading, singing, playing and talking with young children. It is a crucial reminder for all caring adults and if we collectively take the time to engage with young children in our community, we will significantly improve children's acquisition of early literacy skills. We have seen how effective the *Slip, Slop, Slap* campaign has been at reducing the instances of skin cancer in Australia; now is the time to embrace the campaign for literacy – read, talk, sing and play every day.

Sue Hill, CEO Raising Literacy Australia

Book launch and celebration

On Friday 4th November we were thrilled to launch our newest children's books *Baby Dance* (by Katrina Germein and Doris Chang) *Little Chicken Chickabee* (by Janeen Brian and Danny Snell) and *Fancy Pants* (by Kelly Hibbert and Amanda Graham). The three titles have been specially commissioned by RLA as key books in the Reading Pack project, and 21,000 of each title will soon be distributed free to young children across South Australia. Congratulations to the authors and illustrators involved, we are sure the books will become family favourites in no time.



Community Libraries project

RLA's mid-year fundraising campaign, *The Little Big Book Swap*, has resulted in the establishment of five new community libraries across SA. The libraries consist of over 300 picture books, a bookcase and a folder of make and do activities. Library recipients have included *Darlington Children's Centre* (pictured), *St Josephs Education Centre*, *Parafield Gardens Children's Centre*, *Balaklava Community Children's Centre* and *Inner North Community Health Service*. A further five libraries will be allocated in early 2017 supporting community organisation's working with young families to read, play, sing and talk with children every day.

Raise funds for RLA when you shop online

The Little Big Book Club is your one-stop-shop for quality picture books. Browse and buy over 450 recommended titles online and your order will be completed by the team at *Booktopia*. RLA receives 7.5% of all book sales in your shopping cart, so why not stock up on gifts for the whole family. RLA has also registered with *FOLO*, a social enterprise that gives shoppers the opportunity to donate a percentage of their purchase to a charity of their choice. There are over 700 participating retailers and it takes just 30 seconds to download. Sign up today and choose *Raising Literacy Australia* as your cause.

www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/shop

<https://au.folo.world/sign-up>



Wishing you and your family a safe and happy Festive Season