

March 2019 Quarterly Update

Welcome to our March news update. It has been an incredibly busy start to 2019 and we hope you enjoy reading about some of our key highlights so far.



NEW! Professional Learning Workshops

Raising Literacy Australia's professional learning calendar has just been released and features over six new specialised learning workshops for early years practitioners. These include: sensory processing, inclusive practice, positive discipline, speech and language development and how to integrate literacy and STEM. The workshops will be run in conjunction with a range of guest speakers and customised session times are available upon request. Further information is available at <https://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/events>

Connecting Foster and Kinship Carers SA

On Wednesday 23 January, RLA supported the Connecting Foster and Kinship Carers SA Family Day at the Beach House, Glenelg. Our team had a great time chatting with families about the "Read to Me" project and the favourite books they share together at home. Foster and kinship carers really appreciate the book packs that are given to them every three months and the opportunity to spend quality time reading stories with children in their care. It was wonderful to hear, direct from families, the positive impact this project continues to have with children in the foster care system.



Brave Foundation

We are very proud to be partnering with the Brave Foundation, a national organisation that supports expecting and parenting teens. As part of a new trial project to maximise parent learning, Raising Literacy Australia has provided the Brave Foundation with 350 Baby Reading bags to encourage parents to start reading, talking, singing and playing with their baby during the crucial development period of the first 1000 days. The project is currently being piloted in NT, VIC, NSW, TAS and Qld, and will help teenage parents to build a village of support for themselves and their children.

Author and Illustrator Mentoring Initiative

Raising Literacy Australia wishes to congratulate illustrators Robin Tatlow-Lord and Ross Morgan and writers Kylie Covark and Kaliah Tsakalidis for securing their place in our inaugural Author and Illustrator Mentoring initiative. The project is supported by the James and Diana Ramsay Foundation and will enable these emerging writers and illustrators to fulfil their dream of publishing a children's picture book. The project will run over the next two years and be led by a team of professional mentors including authors Mike Dumbleton and Janeen Brian and illustrators Mandy Foot and Danny Snell.

Image credit: Russell Millard, The Advertiser



****Thank you to our key partners and supporters for their ongoing support of our literacy programs****

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