

SCHOOL LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT: ACADEMY OF MARY IMMACULATE

SCIS speaks to Anne Chowne, Learning Leader at McAuley Resource Centre, Academy of Mary Immaculate in Fitzroy, about what is happening in their school library.

What is your job title, and what does your role entail?
I am a qualified teacher with 10 years' experience in 7-12 Catholic girls' schools in inner-city Melbourne. I am responsible for the library's strategic plan, policy and procedures, oversee the day-to-day management of the library, reading, collaborative work and resources for their curriculum, and provide a warm and friendly space. I could be helping students with their resources, listening to their questions, helping them with their assignments, finding them a book to read, in a book club, or in a class helping

the most rewarding aspect of the school library, point one thing. It is about working with students over a term, helping them just having a chat. It is because you are always there to promote books, out to the students, tools and resources, ways to teach.

What is the most the library's role in the school community? It is a place for learning, but a gathering of parents and activities groups, such as Help, as well as Book Club, Chess

the library is a place to chat

2019

connections

Connect with the school library community

2023 Media Kit



Academy of Mary Immaculate students enjoying the school library.

Are there any current issues or challenges facing your library? How are you working to overcome these?

Students need to know how to search for information effectively, ensuring it is relevant and understandable. Teachers often rely on Google, but I'm not sure it helps the students find authentic, reliable sites, nor do they learn how to achieve better results by, for example, using keyword searches or shortcuts.

Over the past four years, I have worked in partnership with the Education Team at the State Library of Victoria (SLV) to run research workshops for our years 7, 9 and VCE students. SLV has so many resources, databases, images and newspapers that the students can access for free.

How do you promote literacy and reading in your school? Are there any challenges in doing so?

When I took up the position in 2016, a library review had just taken place. One of the key areas of concern was the drop in reading and borrowing by students, and 'Wide Reading' classes for years 7 and 8 students had disappeared. We have since worked hard to build the fiction collection, weeding out old stuff, and putting some of it into genres.

After lots of effort and building relationships with the English teachers, Wide Reading has been reinstated. It is so important to give students the time to develop the skill of reading for pleasure.

The highlight of all this effort is the RAGE Book Club, which has grown to nearly 40



Educational Lending Right

'Please, for the sake of every children's book author you admire, and for every child who needs inspiration, join the ELR surveys if you are given the chance so that we can keep on writing.'

~ Jackie French

If your school has been invited to participate in the Educational Lending Right School Library Survey, please spare five minutes to support the Australian writing and publishing industry. For any enquiries, please contact elr@esa.edu.au.

Australian Government
Department of Communications and the Arts

Education Services Australia

About *Connections*



Connections is a quarterly school library journal published by the Schools Catalogue Information Service (SCIS), a business unit of Education Services Australia.

In print for over 30 years, **Connections** is a trusted magazine written for and by members of the school library community. Print copies are distributed to all school libraries in Australia, with digital copies available online at scisdata.com/connections.

Connections aims to support school library professionals in their endeavor to promote literacy and lifelong learning, and to improve educational outcomes within their schools.

9,500 print copies distributed each term.

Digital issues emailed to over 10,000 SCIS subscribers worldwide and 20,000 recipients of ESA News.

12,500 visits to scisdata.com/connections annually.

Over 20,000 followers engage with **Connections** articles across our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn channels.

Estimated readership of over 20,000 including:

- primary and secondary school library staff
- teachers and principals
- tertiary library students and lecturers

Topics covered include:

- library advocacy
- reading and literacy
- library programs and services
- educational technologies



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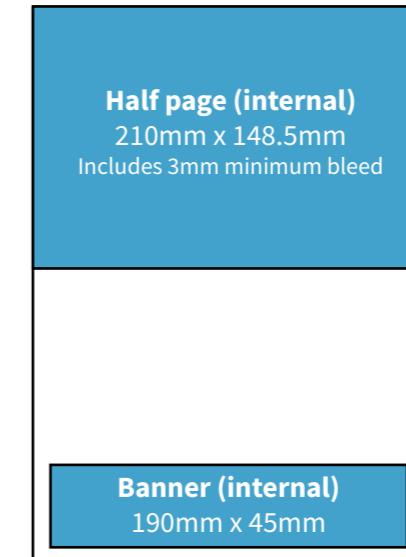
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Size	Pricing (per Issue)
Full back cover	\$1,550
Half page (Internal)	\$820
Tower (Internal)	\$620
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Full back cover
210mm x 297mm
Includes 3mm minimum bleed



Half page (internal)
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Tower (internal)
60mm x 270mm

Schedule

Issue	Final artwork due	In schools
Term 1 2024	1 Jan 2024	xx February 2024
Term 2 2024	1 March 2024	xx May 2024
Term 3 2024	xx June 2024	xx July 2024
Term 4 2024	1 September 2024	xx October 2024

Please note:

- All prices are GST inclusive, and are subject to change.
- All advertisements, except back cover advertisements, are placed throughout **Connections** wherever is deemed most appropriate by the editor.
- Advertisements appear in the print edition and in the online PDF only, and are not published in the HTML version.
- Artwork must be supplied as print quality CMYK PDF or high resolution CMYK (300 dpi) jpg.

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Connections issue/s

Issue 132 (Term 1, 2025) Issue 133 (Term 2, 2025)

Issue 134 (Term 3, 2025) Issue 134 (Term 4, 2025)

Please see page 3 for artwork deadlines.

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For further enquiries, please contact the Connections Editor on the email listed above, or by telephone on +61 3 8330 9468.