



MEDIA RELEASE
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**International Association of School Librarianship (IASL)
Inc.**

LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE IS THE HUB OF TEACHING AND LEARNING - LinksPlus Library Commendation Award

Andrea Walker, Head of Library & Information Resources, Renaissance College, Hong Kong has been awarded the LinksPlus Library Commendation Award for developing the library and resource centre as the hub of learning and teaching at the college.

The award, sponsored by LinksPlus, publishers of Weblinks Directories, recognises outstanding and innovative projects, plans or programs that could serve as models for replication by school library associations or staff in individual schools. A certificate and a monetary award of US \$1000 will be presented at the 38th annual conference of IASL at the Hotel Alexander, Abano Terme, Italy in September.

Mr Peter Kenny, Principal of Renaissance College, noted that Ms Walker designed the layout of this facility with the vision to develop the library and resource centre in parallel with the curriculum across the college. Andrea established a purposeful collection in collaboration with staff to support the three International Baccalaureate programs, initiated a wiki to showcase new reading resources and developed a reading and research culture within the school community. The Head of Languages, Mr Graeme Brasher, praised Ms Walker in stating that “she has responded to the challenge with purpose, vigour and passion.”

One student’s comment captures the importance of the library and resource centre as the centre piece of Renaissance College - “The library is a place of research, a place for learning and a place to build the imagination.”

Paul and Pat Pledger of LinksPlus congratulated Andrea on establishing the library and resource centre as a vibrant, welcoming learning community and for her ongoing professional commitment to the profession of teacher librarianship in Hong Kong.

The International Association of School Librarianship, which promotes and administers this award, has personal, association and institution members from over 75 countries and is committed to enabling young people to develop literary and cultural appreciation and to use information effectively through the improvement of school libraries and school library programs as a vital component of education.

Information about membership and the awards program is available on the IASL website: <http://www.iasl-online.org> and from the IASL Secretariat, PO Box 83, Zillmere, Australia 4034.

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