



Reference: 20170911-4785
12/17/9

Enquiries: TG Cloete

Institutional Resource Support Minute: 0008/2017

To: Chief Directors, Directors (Head Office and district offices), Heads: Curriculum Coordination and Advice, Circuit Managers, Subject Advisers, SLES Staff, and Principals and Governing Body Chairpersons of public primary and secondary schools

Subject: International School Library Month — October 2017

1. Libraries are the key to the global network that gives us access to information. It is therefore essential that our school libraries become true learning resource centres and that the importance of school libraries be widely recognised.
2. During October 2017 school libraries in South Africa and across the world will celebrate and promote library and information services at schools, using the theme **“Connecting Communities and Cultures”**. The month of October was declared International School Library Month (ISLM) by the International Association of School Librarianship.
3. Celebrating ISLM should be seen as recognising the role and importance of libraries in lifelong learning, i.e. providing essential literacy and learning and teaching support material (LTSM) throughout the school system. International research has shown that learners achieve on a higher level and become more competent readers when they have access to a school library with a good resource collection, including books learners enjoy reading and strong information literacy programmes.
4. In order to celebrate the importance of school libraries during ISLM, those in charge of school libraries around the world are encouraged to choose a day in October 2017 that best suits their particular situation.

5. Please open the accompanying attachments for:
 - 5.1 a range of suggestions on how Western Cape Education Department (WCED) schools could celebrate ISLM 2017;
 - 5.2 useful websites to visit; and
 - 5.3 the official ISLM logo for use in promotional material (note that this logo may only be used for publicising ISLM and not for commercial purposes).
6. Schools are encouraged to send a full report (including pictures) on what they have done during ISLM to the following EDULIS and district officials for publication:

Faith Lawrence	School Library Adviser, West Coast Education District	tel. 021 860 1562
Janine Ontong	School Library Adviser, Cape Winelands Education District	tel. 023 348 4657
Carol van der Heever	School Library Adviser, Metro South Education District	tel. 021 370 2084
Timothy Cloete	Coordinator: School Library Services, Eden & Central Karoo Education District Overberg Education District Metro North Education District Metro East Education District Metro Central Education District	tel. 021 957 9626

SIGNED: HA LEWIS

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: EDUCATION PLANNING

DATE: 2017-09-12