**Happy Birthday to us**

As Term 2 comes to an end for 2020 we can all breathe a great sigh of relief……what a challenging time it has been! All of our committee have experienced a very hectic time leaving little time to attend to PALS matters. We had to postpone our PD Day in March. It now will be held in November on Friday November 27…..hopefully. Details will be sent to all PALS members.

The Anne Kennedy Award

On **June 26 1996** our Association was founded. The first President was Anne Kennedy and since 2016 in her honour and to recognise the work of outstanding teachers we have presented the Award. Your school should have received information re nomination recently. If you have not please let us know. If you want us to directly send the forms to a particular person so they can be reminded there is an extraordinary teacher in their school to nominate then give us their contact details It will also make sure the nomination information gets to the right person.

Extension of Membership

As we have been so quiet is terms of running PD **we would like to extend to all our current members an extension of their membership for 6 months.** We still incur expenses in these Covid times ( admin costs etc) but these costs have been reduced lately. All our administration work is performed by the Professional Teachers’ Association PTC and we pay them. As a not- for - profit Association our Committee is made up of volunteers. Some of the larger Associations have paid employees and an Office…..one day we hope! Please help us grow by keeping your membership up to date and encouraging your colleagues to join.

Digital Conversations

Meanwhile we want our members to make contact with each other by having digital conversations in small groups. These meetings will take place via ZOOM.

We have set the topic for the first conversation but really want to run conversations on topics you are interested in.

The meetings will run no longer than 45 minutes…..they will be free. There will be a PALS committee person facilitating the conversations but the input will be your input. They will be limited in number of attendees to facilitate discussion.

Topic for First Conversation.……Reflections and learnings from distance learning… impact on your students and impact on yourself and your role.

We feel these conversations will be beneficial for our members and we hope that they will lead to the setting up of networks where you can meet online with others in the learning support role. Over the years we as a committee have met regularly through teleconference and for the past two years through ZOOM….the sharing of knowledge etc has been very beneficial to us all. And even though we feel you may be ZOOMed out we think that making contact with your colleagues in similar roles in schools will be beneficial.

The Jill Sherlock Memorial Learning Assistance Library

This is great resource…..you can borrow books online ……they are posted to you, no need to travel! Save money and time and increase your knowledge……thus being a more effective teacher! We encourage and have always encouraged our members to join. …….no charge. They are releasing a new newsletter. Details to sign up for the newsletter are to be found on the following link.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/3/#inbox/FMfcgxwJWXWLxBvGBnXvWqndkrptvSGg>

Some Links of Interest.

<https://www.teachermagazine.com.au/?utm_source=CM&utm_medium=Trending&utm_content=Science>

New resources are available for workers suffering from poor mental health

[https://the-riotact.com/new-resources-are-available-for-workers-suffering-from-poor-mental-health/380252](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fthe-riotact.com%2Fnew-resources-are-available-for-workers-suffering-from-poor-mental-health%2F380252%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR1HDgahasMnNf1lcYiFeUOyAEtN1lOUCn5iZpXct4uM7TT67kDY75bkHZY&h=AT1tzqO7rqS6eFzDs4HsL7eNqPLl1O7LfUZmkZ4NjBggMio32fjqYIwfaqq7AIyxyiBDbubHKQmpUPjSrJDTDlHloSZeNPNo43Wd8uUgnEXog3HAYZ1uqNq_0-HV3MTKr_m3a64&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5B0%5D=AT0JPPr1atNSuh7FXHMHorFNfWgrA4rPkTS6nWXUgxOe_Tv-Qvv1Lf1-QaMKKQ85pBNLHjZNpXOiIk9Wp4HGj6Zc5TKSKglP-uIJjh3ePTH4QqTF69fN71VtbHmzkHMlF0Y2oupCUVIOzB_713VQHkkUdFo1odNu0dimYXYR8OkKX08-WnrUmvadsJdHXTx3HB4KwkIGiByYgsqGbBJM6R_kqQ)

#### [**Australian Network on Disability**](https://www.facebook.com/ANDisability/?__cft__%5B0%5D=AZXfyX8zU8CvpfLDIfxyN9SutLJ5T_xqNe8mq-xzckaxpdBEU-dYbrtXSP1Ul4X1cvyTj5_QUqo4zKmRfjaZAXBB2Q9TMVE2dGJk_lEl_AB78jFJUxW07AJV_WMGvW85PMvEYY6us4wKs5ULGU4QYSO7onAT0Sk0fuNCuEFw9w95xfLKleHDrtK9Jxr1Q95AjWs&__tn__=-UC%2CP-R)

AND's National Conference recordings now available

Stronger Together, our virtual conference brought together a prestigious line-up of speakers who gave us valuable and practical strategies you can apply in your own organisation now.

[https://www.and.org.au/pages/conference-resources-2020.html](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.and.org.au%2Fpages%2Fconference-resources-2020.html%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2S-FKtFrsyjFWeDOs9IVSTRBSgDYgE4Sq-MuZB3iPmXHEVgAv138pKAvo&h=AT21laLJ0fYsd9sM02Cch9ZZfGCoTnjLn7eiVRSpws0SgewPKqXE5UeS195M4n_nvkQ2KUitUA7LlGH7zH70LXZIFM3YI48oNaSsVxaYVHYW-OiRsA2uS6z9ZD-wlfZMfsexH40&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5B0%5D=AT1KUKEnKwyDK0fQhxrEPpJ6pJYCtOFvY2PWf2l3t2RcLRdMreNfrrJqWyNFEiKCiiPzcpw9eSQx_0fDhuQOkVrIgP8O2j2oWypcvaaJWZOTlu00UJ48o6kY9tSyESU1NF-iNdGaPBbFRx2mLehnosEu3KNVV7R-QF2Y6LZjoc_8gtfXEgqQqftVMnDARuMbJNfnbU4OVc0BuBcvaXAUjfMwS2U)

And on the following link you will find the following article

<https://www.smartbrief.com/original/2020/05/8-ways-make-vocabulary-instruction-more-effective>

In conclusion

1. Any enquiries re membership and accessing the Members’ section of our website contact the PTC. Ph 9716 0378
2. Contact [sec.pals@gmail.com](mailto:sec.pals@gmail.com) re the The Anne Kennedy Award and any input or comment re anything in this Update.
3. And remember we do have a facebook page. Items relating to our area of business are added there regularly. PALS Australia

Have a great break!