Welcome back to all school and public library contact people for PRC for 2007
The Year of the Gold Medal

New initiatives for 2007
Thank you to all Zoomerang survey respondents in November/December 2006 who contributed so much useful feedback to inform decisions for 2007 and beyond.

- 2 school contact people can be registered
- A new category of Diaries has been introduced
- 378 new titles have been added to the booklists including new graphic novels
- Student Reading Records are now in electronic format on the website
- Encouragement of staff and students to explore the Premier’s Reading Challenge website
- Promotion of reading books in languages other than English
- Encouragement to support Aboriginal students to complete the challenge

The next three medals have been announced which will follow on from gold:
  - The Premier’s Reading Challenge Champion medal
  - The Premier’s Reading Challenge Legend medal
  - The Premier’s Reading Challenge Hall of Fame medal

Brief Statistics for 2006
The success of the Premier's Reading Challenge continued in 2006 with 90 915 students completing the challenge which is an increase of 27% from 2005. 90% of schools across South Australia are to be congratulated for having students completing the challenge. 151 home education children completed the challenge.

PRC Listmaker
The latest version 2007.2 has been on the website since 2 March 2007 and it should have more success in tagging multiple copies of books. If you want to use this version you will need to download and install it and redo the comparison process. You may like to wait until the beginning of term 2 to do this so that it will include the booklist update for 2007.

There is also a "new look" for users with Windows XP systems, too. You will see that the pushbuttons look different. Users with older versions of Windows will see the original style.

Some people are reporting issues related to what are known as 'permissions'. When the Listmaker program is updated, it is reinstalled and the comparison process must be redone. This requires the computer to allow the user to write data to files, update them and even create new ones. Many school IT managers block this ability for security reasons, and it interferes with Listmaker's operation. The result is unpredictable. Schools need to ensure that librarians using Listmaker have been granted full-access permission to the \Program Files\PRC Listmaker folder, and not just read-only or any other lower permission level.

PRC Listmaker is compatible with e-Library and Films2001. Please contact the support section at Functional Solutions to assist with the required process.
Email: support@librarysolutions.com.au
PRC Listmaker doesn’t pick up absolutely every book if there are slight differences with how PRC have listed books compared with your school’s catalogue.

**Year 10 participation**
The Premier’s Reading Challenge is NOT being extended to Year 10 students. However, a number of Year 10 students who have participated in the Premier’s Reading Challenge previously are very keen to continue their involvement so they can be awarded a gold medal. They would fill in the Student Reading Record that Year 8 - Year 9 use and mark it as Year 10 at the top of the sheet. It would be expected that these students read 12 books of their own choice at a literacy level suited to them. The books could include books from the Year 6 - Year 9 booklist in the MATURE category. Schools would include these students when they add the data for the rest of their students in September.

**PRC Website**
The functionality searching on the BOOKLIST page is being improved and should be completed by mid-March.

**New Students in DECS Schools Transferring from the Non-government Sector**
One of the issues at data entry time in September is tracking students who change schools. One way to make sure records match for DECS students coming from non-government schools is to email the 10 digit EDID number of new students anytime before September so it can be added to the student’s current record on the PRC database.

**More Booklist Changes**
*All these will appear correctly on the website and PRC Listmaker in the booklist update in May.*

- *The Deliverance of Dancing Bears* is by Elizabeth Stanley not Margaret Stanley
- *Girlz Rock! Netball Showdown* is by Jacqueline Arena not Julie Mullins
- *Bunny Cakes* is by Rosemary Wells not Penny Wells
- *Bunny Money* is by Rosemary Wells not Penny Wells
- *Felix Feels Better* is by Rosemary Wells not Penny Wells
- *Hazel’s Amazing Mother* is by Rosemary Wells not Penny Wells
- *Max’s Dragon Shirt* is by Rosemary Wells not Penny Wells
- *Noisy Nora* is by Rosemary Wells not Penny Wells

Left off the list
- Faulkner, Carol  *Dads Have No Shame*, Year 3-5, Aussie Bites
  Sarah copes with her father and neighbour trying to outdo each other with garage sales.
  Category: Family and Relationships, Humour
- Henderson, Don  *Half the Battle*, Year 6-9, Sean joins the Year 9 football team and learns a lot about moving forward in life with the help of his mates
  Category: Schools, Sports

Misspellings:
- 3906  *Book of Lies*  James Moloney  not Maloney
- 9933  *Helicopter Man*  Elizabeth Fansham  not Fansham
- 2413  *True Escape Stories*  Paul Dowswell  not Dowswell
- 2508  *World of Anne Frank*  Anne Frank  not Anne Frank House

PRC ambassador, Phil Cummings has written a new title, *Danny Allen was Here*. It has been included on the Year 6 - 9 booklist and it has just been released in March.
Another new book which has been distributed to many schools is *Rusty Loses his Loop* written by Josie and Matthew Wright-Simon. It is on the Reception – Year 2 booklist and is a very timely book in the light of current water restrictions and the crisis with the River Murray. A little bird named Rusty flies from Siberia to Australia to find his Coorong home is starting to change. The water is too salty. Plants are getting sick and birds are getting hungry. Every year Rusty returns to find the situation is getting worse. More fresh water is needed for the Coorong and the River Murray to become healthy again. This book invites us to become part of the solution: let’s start saving water now! It is published by The River Murray Urban Users Committee and this website has more details and free educational booklet. There is also a flyer about accredited PD opportunities about the River Murray in general and one specifically called *River Murray for Early Years.*  


**Reader’s Cup books**  
If you are having a Reader’s Cup Competition in your district and would like the books included in the booklist update in May please forward the titles as soon as possible.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge Book Spine Stickers**  
Please download the order form for stickers from the FOR STAFF section of the website.

**Public Libraries**  
Some people are asked if students can participate in the challenge if their school is not registering. The answer is ‘Yes’. They can participate as individual students and they download the Student Reading Record for Home Education and Individual Students.

**2006 Awards**  
Some people still have queries about awards students received in 2006. It is not too late to get these sorted out and it is much better to do it now so everything will be ready for data entry in September. Please email or phone about any queries.

**Allwrite! and Come Out!**  
You are probably aware of all the wonderful opportunities being offered in city and regional areas with these events in May. With the theme *Once Upon a Time* the opportunities to promote literacy activities and link with the Premier’s Reading Challenge are exciting. Look for the yellow Come Out! booklets in your school.

**Popular Books from 2006**  
10 popular books for each year level have been listed on the website in the NEWS section, collated from the 2006 data entry process.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge Song**  
There is an order form which can be downloaded and faxed to request a complimentary copy which will be sent to your school immediately.

Kaleen Watt continues in her role as the Administration Officer for the Premier’s Reading Challenge in 2007.

Kind regards

Alle

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