A Message from the Premier

Welcome back to a new school year and the ninth year of the Premier’s Reading Challenge in South Australia.

I am challenging South Australian students from Reception to Year 9 to read 12 books by 7 September 2012. I also encourage any Year 10, 11 and 12 students to continue their participation in the Challenge.

In 2012, I am adding an extra challenge for all students – to read not only the 12 books for the Challenge, but read 1 more book. This will enable us to reach the target of 1.5 million books read in South Australia for the Challenge in celebration of the National Year of Reading in 2012. This is the “12 + 1” campaign for 2012.

This year I will present the Reader for Life – bronze award to students who have completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge nine times

The Premier’s Reading Challenge continues to grow amazingly, with over 119 700 students completing the Challenge in 2011 from over 96% of schools, as well as from home education families. This is an increase of more than 3, 300 students from 2010.

This is an outstanding achievement and I thank you all for your time and efforts in supporting children and their families to complete the Challenge.

The Challenge is fortunate to have fourteen high profile and enthusiastic ambassadors who inspire students to enjoy reading and achieve their goals. Adelaide United Football Club, Link Lightning Basketball Club, Port Adelaide Football Club, Adelaide Football Club and Thunderbirds Netball Club have thrown their support behind the Premier’s Reading Challenge and Premier’s be active Challenge as the ambassador teams.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge continues to be an important initiative that supports the State Government’s commitment to increase the literacy skills of young South Australians and encourage them to enjoy reading.

I encourage all students to ‘Discover the World of Reading with the Premier’s Reading Challenge’ and wish you every success in 2012, the National Year of Reading.

Yours sincerely

JAY WEATHERILL

Premier

January 2012