Discover the world of reading with the Premier's Reading Challenge
The first year of the reader for life – champion award (R4Lc)

www.prc.sa.edu.au

Update 1 – January 2015

WELCOME to the 2015 Premier's Reading Challenge!

Your existing Challenge contact/s and the school’s email address have been automatically rolled over as your 2015 registration. Should any contact details need updating, please reply with these details – first name, last name, email address. We will update your school’s registration for you.

If the contact details need no amendment, please commence the Challenge for 2015 at your school and enjoy!

Please note: This is in regards to registration – data entry will commence from 06.07.2015 until 18.09.2015.

Awards
2015 will be the first year that the Reader for Life champion (R4Lc) award will be presented to students who complete the Challenge for twelve years. This year, the R4L award has a yellow band to distinguish it.

First year Certificate
Second year Bronze medal
Third year Silver medal
Fourth year Gold medal
Fifth year Champion medal
Sixth year Legend medal
Seventh year Hall of Fame medal
Eighth year Reader for Life award (R4L)
Ninth year Reader for Life bronze (R4Lb)
Tenth year Reader for Life silver (R4Ls)
Eleventh year Reader for Life gold (R4Lg)
Twelfth year Reader for Life champion (R4Lc)

If you have need of any reader for life certificates, a 3rd and final print run is scheduled to arrive in March – please forward any requests with full details to me by COB Friday 27th February. Please note: this is the last opportunity for any reprints for 2014 reader for life certificates.

Website
To find out all you need to know about the Challenge: www.prc.sa.edu.au

Please promote the website to students, families and staff as they enjoy finding out information about the books, authors, ambassadors, guidelines and lots more. Of particular note is the ‘like’ feature, where people can indicate whether they like the books they are
reading. We now have a Top Ten live tally, which is very helpful in finding out what students are reading.

Kidspace is where students can:

- Win a prize by adding a Rate-a-Read,
- View the Hall of Fame Honour Roll,
- Participate in various Blog entries, and
- Vote for next year’s poster for the Premier’s Reading Challenge

Poster Pack
A poster package was sent to every school Principal in the first week of the school year, via InfoConnect, containing:

- A welcome letter from Premier Jay Weatherill
- A combination of primary and secondary posters – if you would like more of either of these, please let me know.

Guidelines
It is important to refresh your memory about the Challenge by reading the guidelines in the FOR STAFF section of the website.

Student Reading Records
Each student participating in the Challenge will require a Student Reading Record and this is available from the link on the FOR STAFF page. Don’t forget the electronic reading records which can replace hard copies and save on filing space, printing and paper.

We advise that you retain students’ reading records for 2 years after a student has left your school, as most potential previous participation queries should be resolved within this time. For any issues falling outside this time frame, please contact the Challenge office.

Hall Of Fame
On the Student Reading Record you will notice that students are asked to tick the award they will achieve in 2015. If they are going for their Hall of Fame medal, then the next line needs to be signed by the student’s parent or carer to indicate that their name can be included in the Hall of Fame Honour Roll on the Premier’s Reading Challenge website.

PRC Listmaker
You can download PRC Listmaker from the FOR STAFF page to create a matched list of books on the Premier’s Reading Challenge booklist which are available in your library and can also be used to “tag” these books in your catalogue if you choose to do this. It will also tag all books in your library that are the same series as those on the booklist. For example it will tag ALL Aussie Bites books in your library, not just the ones on the PRC booklist.

Booklists
Please note that books in listed series are automatically included in the Challenge booklists, and are therefore not necessarily listed individually. However, they will be marked as Challenge booklist books by Listmaker on your catalogue. The year level will not be allocated, but please include them in the same age group as listed books in the same series.

The booklists are available on the website and are fully searchable by author, title, category and series in each of the three levels. Booklists are also available in printable format - click on BOOKLISTS and then click PRINTING BOOKLISTS which is the first item in the drop down menu under BOOKLISTS in the navigation bar. To print a full list of books choose the first selection in the Reception - Year 9 Booklists. Please note that books in the ‘Mature’
age group (recommended for Years 9 to 12) are listed separately. This list does not include categories so that each book is included only once. If you only want to print one level select the appropriate level. 259 new titles have been included in 2015 and these can also be printed separately from the PRINTING BOOKLIST page.

**Reading Books Written in Languages Other Than English**
Please refer to the guidelines regarding reading books in languages other than English.

**Ambassadors**
We have nineteen ambassadors continuing in 2015 as well as our six ambassador teams.

If your request is successful, a short article and photos (with DECD permission consent forms completed) are requested for the Challenge website. Other schools are interested in your students’ comments about the visit.

**Request forms available in the FOR STAFF section of the website:**
- Stickers to label the books are available in the booklist levels
- Loan of the Premier’s Reading Challenge banners
- Ambassador visits.

**Updates**
Monthly UPDATES are emailed to all school contact people and are also available in the FOR STAFF section of the website. Please notify us at your earliest convenience if your school contact details change.

**The Premier’s Reception**
55 schools with outstanding achievement or improvement of students completing the Challenge will be invited to send representatives to the Premier’s Reception in term 4, and will be presented with a certificate from the Premier and books for their school library. Every endeavour will be made to invite different schools each year. Schools which have attended a Premier’s Reception in previous years and continue their outstanding achievement will be acknowledged by a certificate for ‘continued outstanding achievement’ for the school from the Premier.

**Stories from Schools**
I am always interested in hearing suggestions from schools to enhance the Challenge, make it easier for schools to participate or examples of embedding the Challenge in learning. I also like to hear the success stories which are happening in schools as a result of participating in the Challenge to share with others. These could range from something about the impact of the Challenge on just one student to a class or whole school event or even a special effort by a staff member.

**Information Sessions**
I am available to facilitate information sessions about the Premier’s Reading Challenge at meetings like teacher librarian hubgroups, public library meetings and conferences - please contact me to make arrangements.

**Great Start website**
The [GreatStart](#) website has been developed to support families with ideas and activities to help make the most of everyday learning and events, especially important in the first five years of their life:

‘We know families are busy so we have ideas for activities that you are already doing, ideas that may be new and will only take a few minutes and others that will take longer. We have
also included extra information for you if you want to learn more about the literacy and numeracy that your child will be developing and how this will link to learning in later life.

We will continue to add new ideas and activities, including ideas to connect to particular events or occasions. We are also keen to hear from you on the site; how you went, what worked or other ideas that we can share with other families.’

Be sure to refer your school community to this site.

Best wishes for your participation in the 2015 Premier's Reading Challenge and do not hesitate in contacting me with any queries regarding the Challenge.

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