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

I am challenging South Australian students from Reception to Year 12 to read twelve books by 4 September 2015.

Also, for the first time, there will be a reader for life champion award presented to students who have completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge twelve times.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge continues to be remarkably successful, with more than 125,000 students completing the Challenge in 2014 from 683 schools. Many students educated at home also took part in the Challenge.

More than 95 per cent of South Australian schools had students completing the Challenge. 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.

I congratulate all of these schools on their results.

The Challenge has been fortunate to have nineteen high profile and enthusiastic ambassadors who inspire students to enjoy reading and achieve their goals. Adelaide United Football Club, Adelaide Lightning Basketball Club, Port Adelaide Football Club, Adelaide Football Club, Thunderbirds Netball Club and the SA Scorpions have also thrown their support behind the Challenge and Premier’s be active Challenge as joint 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.

Information about the Challenge is available on the Premier’s Reading Challenge website, by telephoning 8226 2006 or by email at prc@sa.gov.au. A school contact person is requested to coordinate your school’s participation on behalf of all teachers, staff and students at your school.

I encourage all students to discover the world of reading with the Premier’s Reading Challenge and keep up the momentum. I wish you every success in 2015.

Jay Weatherill
PREMIER
23/1/2015