TO: YOUTH SERVICE LIBRARIANS AT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

RE: PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Welcome back to a new school year and an amazing eighth year of the Premier's Reading Challenge in South Australia.

Once again, I am challenging South Australian students from Reception to Year 9 to read 12 books by 9 September 2011. I also encourage any Year 10, 11 and 12 students to continue their participation in the Challenge. The Challenge is for everyone to 'have a go'. By practising and reading for enjoyment children will certainly improve their reading and will discover the fantastic world of books.

The Challenge continues to grow with an amazing 116,200 students completing the Challenge last year. This is an outstanding achievement and I thank you all for your time and effort in supporting children and their families at your public library to participate.

Congratulations to the 7,100 students who were awarded their Hall of Fame medal in 2010. Many are now in the Hall of Fame Honour Roll on the Premier's Reading Challenge website. Just like sports people who show amazing achievement in their sport over a long period of time, Premier's Reading Challenge participants can achieve this honour for completing the Challenge for seven years. I hope they will all continue on to reach the Hall of Fame Reader for Life award and receive a gold embossed certificate by completing the Challenge eight times or more.

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. Public libraries are a great support.

All information about the Challenge is on the Premier's Reading Challenge website at www.prc.sa.edu.au, phone 8226 2006 or email prc@sa.gov.au

I sincerely thank the staff in public libraries who foster a love of reading among children and support the development of their literacy skills for life.

I encourage all students to 'Discover the world of reading' and wish you every success for 2011.

Yours sincerely

MIKE RANN
Premier

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