

December 2017 Quarterly Update

As 2017 draws to a close, I'd like to take this opportunity to share a quote that explains the important role of our organisation in the community. "The early years of life are the best opportunity to lay the foundations for a child's future. By getting it right in early childhood, we plant the seeds for tomorrow's engaged and active student, productive and skilled worker, and confident and loving parent" (Council of Australian Governments (COAG), 2009). I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to our key partners, supporters and staff for your continued commitment to literacy development and improving outcomes for all Australians.

Sue Hill, CEO Raising Literacy Australia

Origin Foundation | Parenting Sessions

In partnership with the Origin Foundation, our training team recently travelled to Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne to deliver early literacy sessions to parents and carers working at Origin Energy. The sessions provided families with an understanding of early childhood brain development and tips on how to incorporate reading, playing, singing and talking into everyday activities. Participants also took home a literacy toolkit, picture books and activities to share with their young children. The parenting sessions are an important part of RLA's holistic approach to literacy development and we look forward to offering more of these next year.



65,000 Reading Packs | Now Available for SA Children

With the help of over 400 volunteers, 65,000 reading packs for SA babies, toddlers and preschoolers were packed during the week of 31 October – 3 November. Included in the 2018 packs are four new picture books from RLA's publishing house, Little Book Press, including *Jump and Shout* by Mike Dumbleton and Peter Carnavas, *Wilbur, Grace and Joe* by Phil Cummings and Amanda Graham, *Lullabies for Bedtime*, and *Busy Little Creatures*. These delightful books will make a wonderful gift for the little ones in your life this Christmas!

For reading pack enquiries visit – thelittlebigbookclub.com.au

To purchase books visit – littlebookpress.com.au

Welcome Janet Leske | Director of Community Programs

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Janet Leske to the team in the newly created role, Director of Community Programs. Janet has over 27 years' media experience working across radio and print and a strong knowledge of the community and not for profit sector. Janet will take a lead role in managing the Read to Me program, the Little Big Book Swap fundraising campaign and the Corporate and Community Libraries initiatives. Janet will work Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and can be contacted at janet.leske@raisingliteracy.org.au



Wishing you and your family a safe and happy Festive Season



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