



LET'S READ Newsletter

December 2006



Welcome

This is the third edition of the Let's Read Newsletter. We hope that you find this simple update a valuable resource.



New Let's Read Team Member

Let's Read is happy to announce that Kara Macleod has joined the team as **Let's Read Operations Coordinator**. Kara will be coordinating the budgets and resources, community orders and invoicing, reporting and information management for the program. Please feel free to contact Kara on kara.macleod@thesmithfamily.com.au or ph: 03 9473 4366 if you have any questions.



Let's Read Training Update

Richard Kaa continues to be very busy travelling to communities to train the community based professionals, preparing them to deliver the Let's Read program to parents on a one-to-one basis, and building up frequent flyer points.



Child health nurses, speech pathologists, childcare and kindergarten workers, general practitioners, paediatricians, librarians, and early intervention workers are just some of the professional groups trained in the delivery of Let's Read.

Let's Read training has been conducted in 5 states, these being Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania, with a total of 37 sessions having been conducted. There has now been 389 community professionals trained in the delivery of Let's Read. This is a fantastic result and only looks to grow as communities continue to delivery Let's Read in 2007.

Initiative of:



CENTRE FOR
Community
Child Health



Inaugural
corporate
sponsor:



New book available

"Spot Goes on Holiday" is now available to be purchased from Let's Read. This book is included on the DVD. The cost to purchase this book is \$6.00.

- **Spot Goes on Holiday**
By Eric Hill
Recommended on the
"From 12 months" booklist



Let's Read Resource Order Form

The Resource Order Form has now been updated and includes "Spot Goes on Holiday" by Eric Hill. Please contact Kara to request a copy of the new Resource Order Form, or it can be downloaded from the secure section of the Let's Read website.



Let's Read Family Fun Day

Children filled the Semaphore Foreshore for the Let's Read Family Fun Day in South Australia on the 5th and 6th of November. The community partner, UnitingCare Wesley, which delivers Let's Read in this area, organised a fantastic event that celebrated storytelling, children's imagination and learning.

A "Build a Book Trail" was designed with children following the trail through the main street, creating pages for their own book. After finishing their books at the local library, families moved down to the foreshore where there was more entertainment. The Little Big Book Club of South Australia organised for "It's Rhyme Time" to perform with storytelling, singing and dancing. There was also face-painting, music lessons and book giveaways.

Let's Read is now being delivered in the north-western suburbs of Adelaide to more than 2000 families at the four key milestones of from 4 months, from 12 months, from 18 months and from 3½ years. As the inaugural corporate supporter of Let's Read, Shell has committed to funding the Let's Read resources for this community.

Let's Read gets underway in Parramatta

Parents and grandparents across a variety of ages and cultural backgrounds filled the Ermington Community Centre on the 25th of October to celebrate the community launch of Let's Read, in Parramatta.

At the community launch the Member for Parramatta Ms Julie Owens endorsed the program and the collaboration between The Smith Family, Centre for Community Child Health, UnitingCare Burnside and Shell. The Clyde Refinery General Manager, Frank Willsdon also spoke of Shell's commitment to Let's Read at the launch. Parramatta Eels player Chad Robinson who entertained the children with one of his daughter's favourite books - "Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy". The MC for the launch was Nine's 4.30pm national news reader, Kellie Connolly.

UnitingCare Burnside will now coordinate the delivery of Let's Read to parents of more than 1,800 children across the Parramatta region at the four age points. As the inaugural corporate supporter of Let's Read Shell has committed to funding the Let's Read resources for Parramatta. Staff working at the nearby Clyde Refinery assisted by packing resources for the event.

Your input

Please take the time to let us know how things are progressing, so that we can share your experiences with the other communities that are implementing Let's Read. The next edition of the newsletter will be produced in February. Please email your stories to community@letsread.com.au, by January 30, 2007.

