MEDIA RELEASE

28 August 2020

Parkhurst kids conquer Premier's reading challenge

Thousands of Central Queensland students have completed the annual Premier's Reading Challenge, despite the challenges of Covid-19.

The Challenge ended today, Friday 28th August, and encouraged children to access digital libraries and re-discover old books on the shelf at home.

The Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said students in Prep to Year 9 were encouraged to read as many books as they can.

"This is the 15th year of the Premier's Reading Challenge which is all about getting children engaged with books and developing a love of reading.

"Not all students were able to physically borrow books from their school library, but that didn't mean they couldn't get involved."

She said students could read books at home, listen to an audio book and access the wide range of resources on the Premier's Reading Challenge website.

"The State Library of Queensland has a wonderful range of digital books while students can also check out their local library's website for online resources.

"There's also the Queensland State Schools eBooks Digital Library, BorrowBox, Project Gutenberg, Reading Centre, Dandiiri Library and much more."

She said reading was a crucial part of a child's journey.

"We know literacy is a powerful tool which gives children the best start at school, but also builds a solid foundation that shapes every aspect of their lives," she said.

Last year 252 students at Parkhurst State School completed the challenge just shy of the highest in the seat of Keppel, Yeppoon State School, with 255.

PHOTOS:

1. **Brittany Lauga, Parkhurst State School principal and students at today's final day of the Premier's Reading Challenge.**

2. **Brittany Lauga MP with Parkhurst SS students on the final day of the Premier's Reading Challenge.**

ENDS

Contact John 0400787037