CHIEF MINISTER’S LITERACY AWARDS

High achievers in literacy have been honoured in the Territory’s primary schools – with 790 students recognised in the inaugural Chief Minister’s Literacy Achievement Awards.

Chief Minister Clare Martin was joined by Member for Sanderson Len Kiely to present ten awards at Wulagi Primary School.

“We have to do everything we can to get our children to read - these awards give every child extra encouragement,” Ms Martin said.

“Teachers identified one student from each class who achieved excellence in one of the following four categories:

- **Personal Best** – in reading, writing or oral language
- **Most Imaginative** – imaginative writing or performance of a text
- **Most Outstanding** – most outstanding communicator at school or in the community
- **Most Improved** – most improved in reading, writing or oral language.

“Primary schools have embraced the opportunity to nominate students who have shown improvement and success in literacy.

“The awards are part of NT Government’s *Focus on Literacy* program which is about getting schools, parents and students to work together to improve literacy.

“It also includes MLAs going to schools to listen to children read, and the distribution of Raising Reader Information Kits to parents.

*Focus on Literacy* builds on the hard work already being done in our schools to improve literacy rates.

“The Northern Territory’s literacy rates are not good enough – and we must work hard to see them improve.”

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Holiday Reading: Top Tips

1. Join your library.

2. Take books wherever you go - in the car, to the supermarket and other outings.

3. Give your child crayons, paints, pens and paper to scribble, draw and write.

4. Use your child’s pictures to encourage reading and writing.

5. Read aloud with your child every day from the day they are born.

6. Keep it positive and fun.