



**Governor-General Major General Michael Jeffery shakes hands with school captain Clint Aplitt, with the Governor-General's wife Marlena and school principal Mark Greentree looking on.**

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# GG's visit aims to inspire a love of reading in students

A SPECIAL visitor dropped in to Horsley Park Public School to present a gift to every student last week.

Governor-General Major General Michael Jeffery and his wife Marlena visited the school last Friday and presented every student with three reading books.

The Governor-General is the patron of the Books in Homes program, which provides students with nine free books every year.

Program co-ordinator Tania Beretin said it aimed to help children begin a home library and, in turn, "improve literacy levels in primary-aged children so they can create greater opportunities for themselves in later life".

The Governor-General spoke to the children about the benefits of reading, homework and his own love of books.

Principal Mark Greentree said

the school community welcomed their special visitor.

"We were very privileged to have such important patrons visit our school and talk to the children about the importance of books and reading," he said.

The Books in Homes program is handing out books to about 10,000 school children from 105 schools across Australia.

Details: [www.biha.com.au](http://www.biha.com.au)

**STACEY VANOSKA**