



The Advertiser

Inspired by South Australia



OVAL FIGHT ANNOUNCEMENT

LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE **P9**



HOLIDAY MOVIE SAVERS ARE BACK

\$38 FAMILY MOVIE OFFER

TOKEN PAGE 4



HERE'S TO A COOL YULE BY THE POOL

[PAGE 6]

37C XMAS DAY FORECAST

HO HO HOT: Phil and Nat Thomas with children Toby, 9, and Ella, 11, from Glen Osmond are bracing for a scorcher on Christmas Day.

Picture: KERYN STEVENS

LOSING THE FAITH

Parents say Jay can't fix child protection mess

EXCLUSIVE
LAUREN NOVAK
POLITICAL REPORTER

AN overwhelming majority of parents and school staff say they have no confidence that the State Government can fix the child protection system, a major survey has found.

More than 1200 people responded to the online questions by a peak parent body in the wake of the Government's response to the Nyland report into the state's troubled child protection system.

The Government has committed an extra \$432 million to implement almost all of royal commissioner Margaret Nyland's 260 recommendations for change.

CONTINUED PAGE 4

ADELAIDE 36ERS SIXERS GO TOP WITH SEVEN STRAIGHT WINS - SPORT

Special family offer \$38

FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM (M)
Present this voucher at the Wallis box office and receive a special family entry price of \$38 to Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. Head to advertiser.com.au/savers for full movie offers.

The Advertiser **Sunday Mail**
Inspired by South Australia
WALLIS CINEMAS

Maximum 2 adults & 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children with \$38 special entry voucher. Only original vouchers will be accepted. Available in 20 and 30. (30 surcharge applies \$3.50 per person). This voucher cannot be used with any other offer. Valid only on Monday, December 19, 2016 at Mitcham, Mt Barker, Noarlunga and Picalilly.

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X LOTTO

SATURDAY DRAW 3695

8	36	17
42	29	18

11 33 Supplementary numbers

DIVISION 1: \$3,973,209.45
TOTAL POOL: \$14,190,033.73
SUPER 66: 2, 1, 2, 2, 4, 7
TOTAL POOL: \$100,633.00

CONTACT

Switchboard: 1300 130 370
For existing subscription queries call: 1300 306 996
For new subscription queries call: 1800 303 241
Country: 1800 888 384
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\$20m to put 'natural' teachers in classroom

RENEE VIELLARIS

ASPIRING teachers who do not hold a university degree will be dispatched to teach the most challenged and unruly students, under a \$20 million Turnbull Government funding boost.

Seizing on evidence that sometimes the best teachers have never studied teaching, the Government has set aside cash in today's Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook to help give students access to professionals who have only held jobs outside the classroom.

Up to 300 professionals – including engineers, lawyers and scientists – will be enlisted by the Government, which will spend the multimillion-dollar injection on recruitment, training and ongoing support. A successful transition will allow the professionals to receive a Masters of Teaching.

The investment comes as the Turnbull Government and the Opposition remain locked in a war over education funding. The combat is based on ideological differences – the Government believes more money does not guarantee better education outcomes and Labor is demanding needs-

Brace for Budget bad news

PETER JEAN

AUSTRALIANS are being warned to brace for more deterioration in the Federal Government's bottom line which could cause the country to lose its prized AAA credit rating.

Economists expect the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook to today show the budget deficit has blown out further than the \$3.7 billion that was predicted in May.

A poor result would likely lead to a downgrading in Australia's credit rating, resulting in higher mortgage and credit card interest rates later next year.

Finance Minister Mathias Cormann yesterday said higher than expected increases in iron ore and coking coal prices had not been enough to offset low wage inflation and sluggish growth in company profits which were constraining tax revenue.

Respected budget forecasters Deloitte Access Economics expect the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook to show the budget deficit for 2015-16 to be more than \$40 billion.

The Budget update will include a range of measures to slash spending, including a crackdown on welfare roting and new systems for detecting and recovering overpayments to Centrelink clients.

PAGE 41: GREEN ARMY UNDER FIRE

based funding, which provides more money to the most disadvantaged schools.

Education Minister Simon Birmingham will today reveal the Government will back the Teach for Australia program and will send willing participants to some of the most unruly classrooms in some of the most disadvantaged and remote areas in Australia.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said the plan was in the interests of Australian students, who are falling behind compared to comparable countries.

"We want to focus on quality of outcomes for our children so they get the best start in life," Mr Turnbull said yesterday. "All the evidence tells us that it's the quality of the teacher and early intervention that matters."

"That's why we are focused on building better pathways for children no matter who they are or where they live."

Senator Birmingham said teacher quality was the single largest in-school influence on student performance in Australia.

"The Turnbull Govern-

ment's \$20.5 million funding boost means up to 300 outstanding new teachers will be placed in disadvantaged secondary schools in regional areas and low-socio-economic communities and schools that are usually difficult to staff," Senator Birmingham said.

"Recent results in NAPLAN and international tests demonstrated that Australia's school performance is at best plateauing, and at worst going backwards despite record levels of investment."

PAGE 8: TEACHERS 'STUCK IN A RUT' WANT CHANGE TO SWAP

Community loses the faith

FROM PAGE 1

However, numerous independent experts and parliamentary committees have presented the Government with comprehensive blueprints since it took office in 2002, which critics argue have been ignored or mishandled.

The results of the survey, run by the SA Association of State School Organisations last week, show there is little faith left in the community that the result will be different this time.

Of the 1238 respondents, 80 per cent said they did not trust the Government to fix the system.

Among those who completed the survey, 90 per cent were parents and 41 per cent worked in a school.

SAASSO executive director David Knuckey said the "emphatic" results showed "parents feel they've heard it all before".

"Given the string of child abuse scandals (in recent years), we anticipated scepticism but we couldn't have predicted the overwhelming lack of faith in the Weatherill Government to fix the child protection system," Mr Knuckey said.

"The results also show that the SA community has run out of patience, with 97 per cent (of respondents) stating they are not prepared to wait beyond the next election for genuine signs of improvement."

SYSTEM FAILURE

SA Association of State School Organisations survey, 1238 respondents (including 90 per cent parents and 41 per cent who work in a school).

80 PER CENT did not trust the Government to fix the child protection system.

78 PER CENT did not think Susan Close should continue as Child Development Minister.



63 PER CENT felt the new Child Protection Department (replacing Families SA) did not represent a fresh start and was simply the "same department, different name".

52 PER CENT believed the Government should only be given six months to show it was making tangible improvements to the system.

45 PER CENT believed enough money had been allocated to deliver the necessary reforms.

The survey found that 78 per cent of people did not think Susan Close should continue as Education and Child Development Minister.

The Opposition has long called for the appointment of a new, dedicated Child Protection Minister.

The Government agreed to the Nyland report recommendation that a Child Protection Department be created, with a new chief executive, to replace Families SA.

However, 63 per cent of survey respondents felt this change did not represent a fresh start and was simply the "same department, different name".

A spokeswoman for the

Child Protection Department said it was taking a "strategic, staged approach to making changes, prioritised by their impact on the lives of children and families".

"The new department is headed by an experienced child protection expert and advocate in Cathy Taylor, who understands the issues we are facing and has... already begun tackling the culture and the stigma of the old agency," the spokeswoman said.

"We have a really exciting opportunity but we cannot underestimate the challenges. There are no quick fixes."

"We need NGOs and the broader community to work with and support us in making

these important changes." Opposition child protection spokeswoman Rachel Sanderson said the survey showed South Australians "don't believe the Weatherill Government is capable of keeping our children safe, no matter how much money it pours into a broken system".

"We need a dedicated minister focusing on child protection to have any chance of making the huge reforms required," she said.

The Government has accepted 196 of the 260 Nyland recommendations, agreed to a further 60 in principle but ruled out four.

It is required to release its next progress report on the changes by mid-next year.

Many of the recommendations relate to increasing staffing levels.

Ms Taylor recently confirmed there were at least 105 vacancies to be filled.

The mid-year Budget update released last week forecast an increase of 100 full-time staff in child protection by the end of this financial year, rising to 329 by mid-2020.

It allocates between \$114 million and \$142 million for child protection reforms per year over the next three financial years.

PAGE 20: EDITORIAL

DO YOU AGREE WITH THE SURVEY? TELL US AT ADVERTISER.COM.AU

Heat brings fire bans across state

TOTAL fire bans have been declared for several districts today.

Bans were applied for 24 hours from midnight last night in the West Coast, Eastern Eyre Peninsula, Lower Eyre Peninsula, Mid North, Mount Lofty Ranges, Yorke Peninsula, Murraylands, Upper South East and Lower South East districts.

These areas will have a severe fire danger risk today. The CFS recommends that people in these districts implement their Bushfire Survival Plan.

Business SA sues in tax row

THE state's peak business lobby group and the taxman will lock horns today in a multimillion-dollar legal row over the definition of a charity.

The SA Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry, known as Business SA, is suing Commissioner of State Taxation, Graeme Jackson.

The lobby group has launched Supreme Court action in an attempt to claw back almost \$2.6 million in payroll taxes because it is a "charity". After failed mediation, the parties will face trial today.

Court documents assert that it "overpaid" \$2,574,844 to Revenue SA, which collects State Government taxes, between July 2009 and May 2014, and an undisclosed amount since June 2014.

The lobby group, which markets itself as the "voice of business in SA", claims it is exempt because it is a charity, according to its notice of appeal lodged with the court.

Revenue SA denies the claim, arguing Business SA's "sole or dominant" purpose was to lobby and advocate for its members, in breach of the Statute of Charitable Act.

'Taunting' crim is back behind bars

VIOLENT criminal and alleged bikie gang member Raymond Jones, who taunted police with pictures of himself while on the run for almost two months, has been arrested.

The 30-year-old was arrested at a property in Smithfield Plains about 10pm on Saturday and will face the Adelaide Magistrates Court today.

Police had been hunting him after he cut off his electronic bracelet and failed to turn up on October 19, the last day of his trial for assault.

