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Title:

Message for 'Junior Citizenship Month' 5DN

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5-DN. Citizenship.

Young people today are facing responsibilities at a much earlier age than their parents. Their role within the community is becoming increasingly important, and because of this it is vital that they obtain a sound knowledge of what is expected of them as citizens.

They must know the functions of local and State Governments, the Australian Parliaments, the Judiciary, have a thorough knowledge of current affairs, and have an appreciation of such things as conservation, road safety and the prevention of pollution.

Junior Citizenship Month will provide young people with an excellent opportunity to study all these things. It will be a stimulating period for the State's Junior Citizens, and I commend it.

Today we are living in an age of rapid development, and because of this you, as young South Australians, are facing responsibilities at a much earlier age than many of your parents did.

This responsibility, along with improved educational facilities and greater social freedoms, means that you are in an excellent position to play an important role in the community's development - a challenge that I hope many of you will accept.

However, if your role in community affairs is to be really effective, it is vital that you obtain a sound knowledge of how the community operates, and what will be required of you as citizens.

You must know the functions of State and Local Governments, the Australian Parliaments, the Judiciary, have a thorough knowledge of current affairs, and have an appreciation of such things as conservation, road safety, and the prevention of pollution.

Junior Citizenship Month has been designed to help students under 16 years of age learn all these things, and its activities will bring to your attention the need for responsible juniors in our community.

During the month a brochure containing eight questions will be distributed to schools throughout South Australia, and answers to these questions will be provided by State Government and civic leaders.

From the entries a panel of judges will select ten students to form a Junior Cabinet, which will tour Adelaide visiting such places as the Art Gallery and University.

It will also visit Parliament House, where its members will be able to study State Government from the time of the first South Australian Premier, the Hon. Boyle Finniss, to present day times.

I urge you all to take part in the 5DN-Coca Cola Junior Citizenship Month, and learn how you can help add to South Australia's development, and set an example for others to follow.