Local students compete in Premier’s Spelling Bee final

Students from 21 public schools will battle it out today when Glebe Public School hosts a Sydney Regional Final in this year’s Premier’s Spelling Bee.

Minister for Education Verity Firth visited Glebe Public to meet the 84 local students battling to become the State’s top speller.

The Sydney Regional Final is one of 32 regional events being held across the State this month.

“Trendal wish all students competing in the regional final the best of luck,” Ms Firth said.

“They have been putting in many hours of extra study in preparation for the final, and regardless of today’s results, I congratulate them on getting to this stage of the Premier’s Spelling Bee challenge.

“This year more than 2,400 regional finalists are competing to be the junior and senior representatives at the State Final in Sydney on 19 November, where the State’s best speller will be crowned.”

Ms Firth said the Spelling Bee was an example of the NSW Government’s commitment to ensuring all NSW students had access to opportunities that would help them develop and improve their literacy.

“The NSW Government has tripled funding for literacy and numeracy teaching in public schools since 1995,” Ms Firth said.

“The Premier’s Spelling Bee is part of the NSW Government’s $616 million four-year investment to further improve literacy and numeracy rates at public schools.

“Just last week, we received the results of the National Literacy Tests, which showed that NSW students in Years 3, 5 and 7 outperformed their peers from every other State in spelling.

“It’s wonderful to see so many students putting themselves forward for this challenge each year and striving for their personal best.

“This year a record 72,000 students from across NSW participated in spelling activities at a school level, an increase of more than 20 per cent from last year.

“The Premier’s Spelling Bee makes learning fun while improving a student’s reading, writing and spelling,” Ms Firth added.

The Premier’s Spelling Bee is proudly supported by ANZ, Franklin Electronics, Qantas, Macquarie Dictionary, ABC Local Radio and The Sun-Herald.

For more information on the Premier’s Spelling Bee visit www.pau.nsw.edu.au