

Children learn the value of literacy

■ Ben Leahy

Tambrey Primary School students came together last week to talk about the elephant in the room — or to be more precise, the elephants in Eric's room.

The elephants were part of the picture book *Too Many Elephants in This House*, which the students read for National Simultaneous Storytime Day on May 20.

Held annually, the Storytime event involves students in schools, libraries and childcare centres around Australia reading the same book by an Australian author and illustrator.

Now in its 14th year, it promotes the value of reading and literacy and reached more than 430,000 children in 2013.



Di Hall reads to Year 5 students. Picture: Tambrey Primary School

Tambrey Year 5 student Jacob Trainer enjoyed this year's book and said he already understood the value of reading.

"We have to read because if you read real stories, you will know about real life stuff so it is best to

read," he said. The seven-year-old said the book was about a boy called Eric who had "so many elephants in his house that one elephant helps him build stuff ...(and) another elephant reminds him to brush his teeth".