



Just mad about this Wonderland of books

FICTION: Iseabal McGrory, 13, and Max Brogan, 12, at the book swap in Alice in Wonderland costumes. Picture: MIKE BURTON

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THEY might have outgrown the story, but *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* provided the inspiration for Seaclyff Primary's Mad Hatter's Tea Party for the Little Big Book Swap.

Yesterday in Rundle Mall, students dressed as their favourite characters to hear readings from Adelaide children's author Mike Drumblen at the



under the Gawler St canopy. Iseabal McGrory, 13, played the role of Alice and classmate Max Brogan, 12, dressed as the Mad Hatter.

The germ of the idea for the Little Big Book Swap came from Iseabal, who was thrilled

yesterday. Her mother, Fiona Bowden, is on the staff of Raising Literacy Australia, which has organised the statewide campaign to promote reading and raise funds for literacy programs.

"The support has just been overwhelming," she said.

Two stalls in the mall all day yesterday gave city workers and shoppers the chance to swap a book for a gold coin donation, or take a book home

Both Max and Iseabal are keen readers. Iseabal's early childhood favourite is Beatrix Potter's *The Story of Miss Moppet* but she has moved on to Lauren Child's *Ruby Redfort* series. Max's favourite is *The Hobbit* - Tolkien's book, not the films. "(The films are) rated M and Mum won't let me," he said.

There's still time to organise your own Little Big Book Swap. Go to thelittlebigbookclub.com.au to download a full

author Mike Dumbleton at the Little Big Book Swap stall from Isadora, who was invited to see her concept come to life nation, or take a book home for \$10. club.com.au to download a full event kit.