



1. McDowell Literacy Project

Our literacy project this year is to promote the enjoyment of reading. To support our goal we are going to hold monthly book exchanges for the students. Below is the schedule for the first 2 rotations.



Cycle 1	- January 27	February 18
Cycle 2	- February 4	February 25
Cycle 3	- February 11	March 11

Your child will be asked to bring his/her books to the library the morning of the scheduled day. He/she will receive equal number of tickets with which to choose books. The exchange will occur in the afternoon so your child will return home that night with new reading material.

Last year this was a very popular event and we hope to regenerate the enthusiasm shown by the students.

2. Family Literacy Day- January 27

To celebrate family literacy each student will be taking home a FAMILY BINGO card. We encourage all our families to participate and for more ideas check out the following website: familyliteracyday.ca

3. Helping Haiti

A project is underway to help the homeless in Haiti. Milk bags are being crocheted into sleeping mats. Each mat requires 250-500 milk bags. McDowell is supporting this initiative by collecting milk bags. Please join us by sending clean, dry outer-coloured bags to school. We have a box set up in the front foyer.



4. Electronic Devices

These devices are not allowed out of schoolbags while at school. Any device that video-tapes and takes pictures are not allowed in the schoolyard. We all need to be respectful of privacy rights.





5. Valentines for Vets

Many classes have participated in sending homemade Valentine cards to Veterans and to presently serving Canadian Military in Afghanistan.

6. Bouffe Pontiac

Christmas Food Drive collected 5 000 non-perishable items. 189 Pontiac households received food, gifts and books during the holidays. Your generous donations were greatly appreciated.

Important Dates

- January 26, 2011 - Cycle 2 and 3 - Winter Carnival
- January 27, 2011 - Family Literacy Day
- January 28, 2011 - P.D.day

DID YOU KNOW?

- 77% of people read daily newspapers, 63% read magazines, and 57% read books.
- Young people ages 15 to 24 have the highest magazine and book reading rate.
- Every year, 300 periodicals, 200 weekly magazines, 12 dailies, and over 9,000 new titles are produced.
- At the secondary school level, compared to boys, twice as many girls say they really like to read, and girls read more.
- Nearly one-fourth of people with insufficient reading levels have a secondary school diploma. Some people will lose their reading proficiency due to a lack of practice, which shows how important it is to instill in children the joy of reading.

Government of Quebec, Policy on Reading and Books, 1998





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