

January 2016 Newsletter

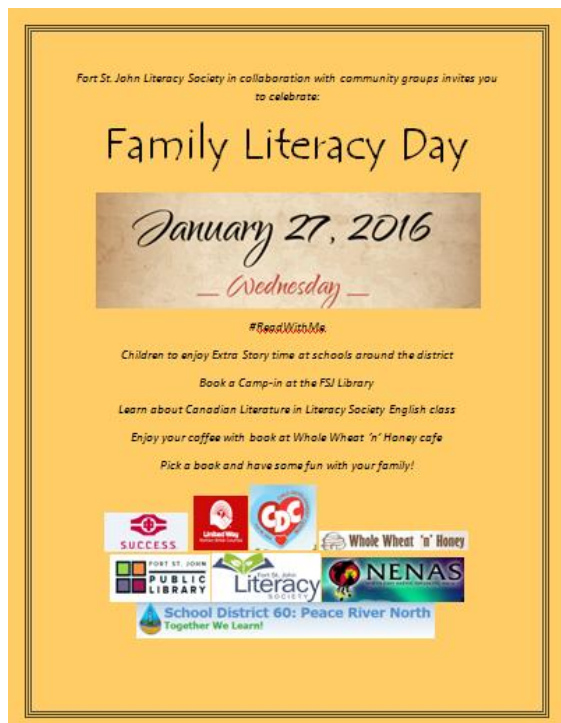
Hello everyone,

The Literacy Society has started 2016 with fresh enthusiasm and plans to issue a monthly newsletter to keep you informed.

So what has been happening in January so far?

Tutor training was successfully completed and our wait list of learners will shortly be matched with newly trained tutors, working together to improve literacy skills such as reading, writing, listening and math. We are excited to welcome the new tutors on board, and hope that they will find their volunteering experience fulfilling. Having said this, it is always a good time to take on new volunteer tutors. It's a great and rewarding way to spend one's free time so if you know of anyone who may be interested or would like to become a tutor yourself, feel free to contact us.

Our **LINC English classes** are back in a full swing with a few new students and some beginner students progressing into intermediate class. They have been learning about appearances, personalities and life timelines giving them a basis to write an autobiography in English.



After the Literacy Society's presentation, the City Council has proclaimed **January 27th Family Literacy Day**. Together with other groups in the community we aim to promote the day and increase awareness of community literacy. Literacy is especially important when it comes to children and families. When families learn together, they build good habits around literacy and learning, share ideas, build strong family connections, develop independent thinking and gain confidence.

Research shows that Over 500,000 British Columbians have challenges with literacy. Regardless of socio-economic background, children whose parents read books to them in their early school years had better reading test scores at age 15. Having strong literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills is positively connected to being part of the labour market. It is also associated with being employed and earning higher wages.

Literacy Day will be promoted in social media and local radio as well as on the internet. There are a number of different activities planned that everyone can join in on:

As part of the English classes, the Literacy Society students will be learning about Canadian authors and will have the opportunity to bring their favorite book to share and discuss with their peers.

In addition, the library plans on doing their annual Camp-In on the night of Saturday, January 30th. Families who reserve a spot can set up a tent and spend the night in the library. They have a campfire, play games, do scavenger hunts...lots of fun! All ages are welcome and have a great time.

School District 60 will dedicate extra time to story time and reading with all their students and will celebrate the day by teaching students about the importance of literacy.

Whole Wheat 'n' Honey Café will have extra books on display for their customers to read or borrow and some of them will even be donated.

We hope everyone can join in and celebrate literacy with us! Go on, spread the word, grab a book and have some fun reading!



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