



01 February 2022

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY TO BE CELEBRATED IN QWAQWA

The Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) in partnership with the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) will celebrate World Read Aloud Day (WRAD) on 02 February 2022 in QwaQwa. This initiative is aimed at promoting reading for pleasure and improving literacy levels hence various research suggest that South Africa has low literacy levels and this poses a threat to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In celebration of WRAD, the NLSA and DSACR will donate reading material to Tharollo Combined School in QwaQwa. Reading books in their mother tongues, studies confirm, fosters a love for reading at a young age. It is against this backdrop that the NLSA and DSACR will observe WRAD; a day that celebrates the reading aloud and storytelling at Tharollo Combined School in QwaQwa from 10H00 to 14H00.

Activities on the day will include:

- Book donation
- Reading out aloud
- Poetry
- Impromptu reading
- Storytelling
- Pre-school rhymes
- Motivational talk

Members of the media are invited to cover the event.

Date: 2 February 2022

Venue: Tharollo Combined School, QwaQwa

Time: 10H00 to 14H00

Private Bag X20606, Bloemfontein, 9300

Business Partners Building, Cnr Henry and East Burger Streets, Bloemfontein

Tel: (051) 410 4735 **Fax:** (051) 410 4786 **Email:** tankiso@sacr.fs.gov.za

Alternatively, members of the media may join the event via live stream on the NLSA's Facebook page: @NationalLibraryofSA

Commenting about the importance of celebrating WRAD, the Free State MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation Me Limakatso Mahasa stated that, "As a Department, we are committed to promoting reading and marketing our libraries as institutions that foster a culture and learning in our communities. Public libraries have also contributed towards assisting the Free State Province achieve outstanding Matric results hence many learners in remote areas utilized various library facilities as part of their preparation for exams. The advent of COVID-19 also necessitated the use of digital learning and our public libraries are equipped with internet connectivity for the benefit of library users."

Issued by the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR)

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