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The Reading Promotion Campaign of Education and Youth Affairs Bureau

Reading not only can enrich a person's wisdom and manner, it is also the simplest way to acquire most knowledge. Therefore, exists in everyplace deep concerns on the development of reading ability and cultivation of reading habit of students, which allows them to love reading, enjoys the interest of reading and changes reading into one of the most important channels for life-long learning. Therefore, in recent years, the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau carried out different related policies for the purpose of promoting reading. They are introduced to you one by one in the following:

To subsidize the hiring of reading promotion staff

Starting from the academic years 2007/2008, the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau has been subsidizing schools to hire reading promotion staff. These reading promotion staff design and provide suitable reading activities for students; guide the students to choose appropriate reading materials and encourage students to read. Now there are sixty eight schools hiring reading promotion staff and these staff collaborate their efforts to promote school reading.

To improve and enrich book collections of school library

Since new information emerges continually and library is the treasury of knowledge, the quality and quantity of book collections must be upgraded to complement the development of society. For that, every year the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau subsidizes schools to purchase reading materials for the purpose of enhancing book collections of schools' libraries to complement the needs and developments of students' reading.

To promote the creation of local culture and reading custom

The reader has an unexplainable enthusiasm in creation of local culture which has special influence on the enhancement of reading and writing interest of reader. Therefore the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau specially holds reading seminars which are hosted by local writers, allowing students to get in touch with local writers in a short distance. These seminars bring students into the thinking of writers and enable students to grasp the skills on reading, writing and literary creations.

To support the building of a combined book catalogue system of school libraries

There is abundant resource of reading materials distributed in Macau's schools. But people outside the schools seldom know of and use this resource. The Education and Youth Affairs Bureau supports the building of a combined book catalogue system to enable the librarians to check the book collections inside Macau schools libraries, to share the resource of libraries and at the same time save the wasting of resources in repeated book cataloging. Now there are nineteen schools participating in this plan.

"One article for each day" Chinese and English Reading Plan on Internet

The Education and Youth Affairs Bureau invites the students of secondary

and primary schools in Macau to participate in the trial of Chinese and English reading plans on internet – "one article for each day". In this plan, one Chinese article and one English article corresponding to the different educational levels of students are provided each day, allowing them to cultivate a good daily reading habit and strengthen their Chinese and English reading abilities. Moreover it enables students to learn to use resource on internet for learning. Now there are over 70% of students joining the Chinese and English reading plan on internet. So far, some positive results have been achieved on motivating and cultivating the reading habits of students.

Installation of computers for special uses in Educational Centre and Youth Centre

In order to complement with the promotion of reading plan on internet, the Educational Centre, Youth Centre and Life-long Learning Station under the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau were installed with special purpose computers for internet reading plan. At the same time, it provides wireless internet services free of charge, allowing students who join the reading on internet program to use these special computers and wireless internet for reading.

The target is to promote all people reading

To build up a good reading habit, one needs to pursue with perseverance and to foster a deep interest in reading. In order to create a social reading atmosphere in Macau, besides the above mentioned plan, the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau also develops reward plans for reading competition in their different centres periodically; opens training course for leaders of reading associations; cooperates with different communities and societies to hold activities for reading association; brings reading custom into communities and hopes to promote all people reading in Macau.

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