



22 October 2021

**To:** Subject Advisors, Teachers, Departmental Heads and Library Information Services (LIS) Coordinators

**Topic:** Promoting reading in communities during the Global Media and Informal Literacy week

**Message Objective are to:**

- Promote reading in communities.
- Encourage primary and secondary school teachers to promote reading in schools.
- Encourage parents and stakeholders to champion reading in communities.
- Encourage teachers and parents to join conferences in reading.

Global Media and Information Literacy Week, commemorated annually, is a major occasion for stakeholders to review and celebrate the progress achieved towards “Media and Information Literacy for All”. This year, Global MIL Week will be commemorated from 24 to 31 October 2021, under the theme “Media and Information Literacy for the Public Good” and will be hosted by South Africa.

Schools and communities can promote reading during this week by engaging in the following reading activities.

**Schools**

- Schools can borrow books from their local libraries and coordinate reading sessions during the Life Orientation periods or in the afternoon.
- Poorly resourced schools can borrow books from a better resourced school for a specific time period. Then exchange and borrow more books on the same basis.
- Teachers can arrange for their learners to access the resource storage spaces at schools. Books collected in resource rooms can be classified into fiction and non-fiction. With the help of the teacher mentor, learners can organise the books according to learner levels as an additional reading resource for pleasure.
- Teachers can record a two-minute video clips and share with neighbouring schools to demonstrate best reading practices.

**Churches**

- Churches can promote reading by using the cell group meetings as book clubs as well. At the end of Bible study, church members can share books or discuss a book.
- Cell group members can share titles of interesting books through established WhatsApp groups.
- Parents and teachers can register and participate the Global Media Literacy conference which is scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> till 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. The link below could be used to register and participate at the conference.

The **registration form and programme** for the conference are accessible on:

<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/globalmilweek/2021/featureconference>

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