



Library Annual Report 2024-2025

Overview



The goal for the library this year was to prepare the library for the renovations scheduled for this summer, which was unfortunately postponed to next summer. Some relabelling for the French bandes dessinées section was done for easy shelving and to make the distinction between the French and English graphic novels more apparent. Heavy weeding was also done in the outdated non-fiction section prior to packing up the library.

The library has really become the “third space” for many students (see [2023-2024 Annual report](#) goals). The library has seen an increase in traffic and has become an extremely busy space. Close to 100 students at a time could be seen during shared recesses, with upwards of 50 students during each lunch. The need for adequate supervision in the library has been discussed, as the increasing number of students correlated to an increase in behavioural issues in the library.

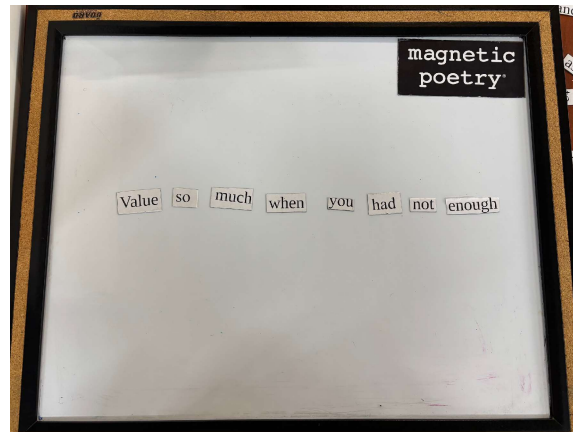
Several students helped out in the library with shelving and book covering as part of their IB Service As Action. WOTP students were also given some training in order to receive some work experience.

The library sees many uses throughout the year. It was constantly booked for staff for a variety of uses, such as the Regional Science Fair, the Waterloo Math and Math League contests, vaccinations, guest speakers, WOTP stage faire, the IB personal project exhibition, and more.

Services

Presentations

Many library-related presentations were held throughout the school year. Library orientations for several classes of students were held so that students could learn about the various library resources and services available to them, and to familiarize themselves with the library's physical collection. Sessions on how to do research effectively and efficiently, how to evaluate the information found, and on plagiarism and citing sources were held both in the library and in classes as well. Special projects in collaboration with teachers, such as poetry activities in the library were created to help complement a unit on poetry (e.g. magnetic poetry, paint chip poetry, acrostic poetry, concrete poetry, and blackout poetry).

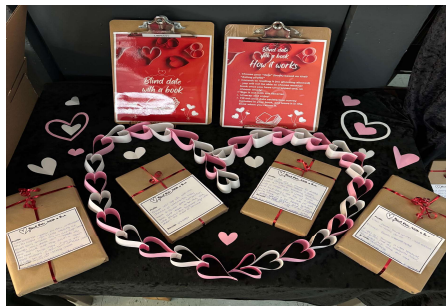


Books for classes

Several French and English classes have visited the library throughout the year so that students could take out books for their class(es) or for special projects. Book bins or book presentations on particular topics were also made available for teachers upon request for their classes. Topics included books on Elizabethan England, extreme sports, Graphic Novels, seeing life through another's perspective, historical fiction, Indigenous literature, and more.

Displays

In order to promote the library's collection, various displays were created throughout the year to help stimulate interest in reading. Displays for Homemade gifts for the holidays, Black History Month, Veganuary, and themes relating to the current month or various holidays taking place were created to make our collection more visible. Once again, the "Blind date with a book" display was the biggest success, and garnered much interest by many students and staff alike, some of which were not usual library patrons.



Battle of the Books

This year, we had 20 students, split into four teams participating in the Battle of the Books (BoB) competition. We held our in-school battle on Thursday March 13th. The winners competed in the Regional battle at John Rennie on March 20th, winning 2nd place in our region, and 3rd overall, making them eligible to compete in the next level of the competition, the Board battle. The Board battle was held on April 3rd at the LBPSB head office, in the evening, with our team winning first place, granting them a spot in the Ultimate Battle. They were awarded with a banner to hang in the library, as well as the trophy (in the glass case outside the library) for a year. On April 29th, our team competed in the Ultimate Battle against the winning teams of the EMSB, the QAIS, and the SWLSB. Our team came in 3rd place. At each level of the competition, students are given free books for their participation.



Collection development

A total of 1037 books were purchased this school year, and we received a donation of 44 books, with a total of 1081 new books added to our collection this year. As the students' interest continues to lay heavily with both manga and graphic novels, to help foster a love of reading, further expanding of these collections was a focus. These sections continued to have seen the most traffic this school year (see [PCHS Loan Statistics 24-25](#)). Other emphasis was placed on continuing to diversify the collection and to expand our French collection.

Expenses

This year's total book budget was \$20,925. A total of \$20,921.75 was spent. An additional \$418.97 was spent on library materials, such as book laminate and spine labels. For a complete view of the library's expenses from this year, please click [here](#).

Statistics

A total of 5835 physical books have been borrowed this year, compared to 3912 last year. This averages to around 25 books per day. We currently have 15 books that were not returned. The list with prices of the books were given to the office, so that they could be billed on the concerned students' accounts.

Plans for the following school year

Reorganizing will continue to be the library's major project for the 2025-2026 school year. The picture book section will be renamed to illustrated fiction, and a separate Quick reads (HiLo books) section will be created for easy identification. The Spanish section will also be

moved into a more visible area. A person designated specifically for library supervision is needed for lunch and recesses, in order to account for the rising number of bodies in the library during breaks, as well as some of the troubles we had this year.