PRESS RELEASE

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LET'S HAVE A PARTY! FAMILY LITERACY DAY CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

Stratford Public Library (SPL) is celebrating 25 years of Family Literacy Day with a full week of activities and events that emphasize the importance of reading and learning together. This year's theme, *Let's have a Family Party*, celebrates the endless opportunities for learning together through play, imagination, creativity, and exploration. The library will be hosting lots of parties to celebrate!

According to Trish MacGregor, PLOW & Children's Librarian, "Not only is learning together as a family fun, it also builds strong relationships, develops literacy skills for children of all ages, and creates wonderful memories that last a lifetime. The possibilities are endless—and it's fun when you do it together! At SPL we are offering an exciting line up of daily parties. Dress Up Party, Beach Party, Dance Party, PJ Party, Snow Friends Party.... you are invited to them all!"

In addition to these daily programs, Mayor Martin Ritsma will join us on Saturday, January 27 at 10:30am to deliver a special story time at our Snow Friends Party. Participants of all ages will enjoy the stories, songs, games, activities, crafts, and even some snow-themed snacks! In the afternoon, join us for winter-themed maker activities in the library auditorium from 2-4pm. You can also participate in our Winterfest Family Day Scavenger Hunt. This is a two-part scavenger hunt that will feature challenges at the library and Winterfest in Upper Queen's Park. It's a great way to participate in indoor and outdoor activities!

For more outdoor fun, you can hit the trails at the Stratford Perth Museum to read the book *Picture a Tree* and, if the weather is right, you can borrow their snowshoes too! *Picture a Tree*, written by Barbara Reid, the Honorary Chair for Family Literacy Day 2024 will be available at the museum until March 31 as part of our Tails and Trails story trail in partnership with the Rotary Club of Stratford and Stratford Perth Museum.

And, from January 20-27, learn together at the library with some free, family-focused activities on the children's floor.

Information about all Family Literacy Week events and activities can be found at splibrary.ca/familylit

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For more information about Family Literacy Day, please contact Trish MacGregor, PLOW & Children's Librarian at 519-271-0220 x140 or tmacgregor@splibrary.ca