



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF MUNTINLUPA CITY

**Office of the Schools Division
Superintendent**

DEC 18 2025

MEMORANDUM

**TOURISM, CULTURE, AND THE ARTS DEPARTMENT
“READ, DRESS, AND BE MERRY” IN CELEBRATION
OF THE NATIONAL READING MONTH**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisor, Curriculum Implementation Division
Chief Education Supervisor, School Governance and Operations Division
Public Elementary School Heads/OICs
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a letter from Ms. Sarah P. Bendaña, MBA, Acting Head, Tourism, Culture, and the Arts Department (TCAD), dated November 26, 2025, on the above-captioned title, the contents of which are self-explanatory, for the information and guidance of all concerned.
2. Public elementary schools are encouraged to send participants to the said activity, preferably Grades 5 and 6 learners to be accompanied by a teaching/non-teaching personnel or by their parents/guardians.
3. Moreover, the participation of public schools shall be subject to the no disruption of classes policy stipulated in DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 titled, Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith.
4. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

VIOLETA M. GONZALES CESO VI
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Officer-In-Charge
Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

Enclosure: As stated

References: None

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

LEARNERS READING CELEBRATION

KSJT / TCAD READ, DRESS, AND BE MERRY IN CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONAL READING MONTH

530 / DECEMBER 15, 2025

UN-2025-530



Student Center for Life Skills Bldg., Centennial Ave, Brgy. Tunasan, Muntinlupa City
8805-9935, 8805-9940
sdo.muntinlupa@gmail.com
deped-muntinlupa.com

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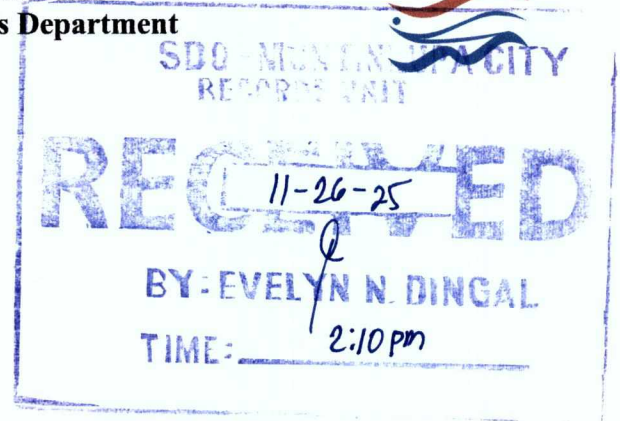


Republic of the Philippines
CITY GOVERNMENT OF MUNTINLUPA
Tourism, Culture, and the Arts Department



November 26, 2025

Dr. VIOLETA M. GONZALES, CESO VI
Officer-In-Charge
Office of the Schools Division Superintendent



Dear Dr. Gonzales:

In celebration of National Reading Month, the Tourism, Culture, and Arts Department, together with the Museo ng Muntinlupa, will be holding a special activity entitled **"Read, Dress, and Be Merry!"** The event is scheduled on **December 17, 2025, at 1:00 PM** and will take place at the **Museo ng Muntinlupa Theater**.

This activity aims to promote a love for reading, nurture creativity, and build a sense of community among young learners. The program will include the following:

- **Reading Session** – Led by our special guest author, this segment will give students the chance to listen to and engage with a professional writer. A Christmas-themed story, appropriate for the participating students, will be featured.
- **Dress-Up Segment** – Participants are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite Christmas character to add a fun, festive, and imaginative touch to the celebration.


In this regard, we respectfully request the participation of **200 students from public schools, particularly those in Grades 5 and 6**. Their involvement will play an important role in the success of this initiative, which aims to inspire creativity and a lifelong love for reading.

For further inquiries or coordination, please contact Ms. Kyle Bejasa or Ms. Michell Marinas at:

Email: tcad@muntinlupacity.gov.ph
Telephone: 8256-3128 loc. 103

Thank you, and let's make Muntinlupa's Christmas brighter and more joyful together!

Yours truly,


SARAH P. BENDAÑA
Acting Head
Tourism, Culture, and the Arts Department

TCAD Reference No. : 2025-606|kgb

“Read, Dress, and Be Merry!”

A Celebration of Filipino Literature Through Creative Expression (Christmas Edition)

OBJECTIVES:

1. Promote appreciation and deeper understanding of literature among the youth.
2. Encourage creativity by reimagining iconic characters from literary works.
3. Highlight the richness of storytelling and its cultural relevance through cosplay.
4. Foster pride in local literature and support the development of young creative talents in Muntinlupa.
5. Promote sustainability and resourcefulness by encouraging the use of recyclable and budget-friendly materials in costume design.

COMPETITION MECHANICS:

1. Participants:

- Open to Grade 5 & 6 students from different public schools in Muntinlupa.

2. Registration:

- Schools must select their representatives based on their own internal criteria.
- Participants must submit a completed registration form.

3. Cosplay Theme:

- Participants must cosplay their favorite Christmas character from any literary work (e.g., Rudolph the Rednose Reindeer, The Grinch, Jack Frost).
- They are encouraged to reimagine the character creatively, while staying true to the character’s literary background and symbolism.
- Use of recycled, upcycled, or low-cost materials is highly encouraged as a way to highlight both creativity and sustainability.

4. Event Day Segment:

a. Interactive Reading Session with Ms. Grace D. Chong

b. Character Ramp and Introduction:

Chosen participants will walk the stage in character and deliver a short introduction, including:

- Their name, school,
- The character name and the title of the literary work their character is from, and
- A brief character portrayal or interpretation (max. of 1 minute).

c. Judging Criteria:

- Character Interpretation and Expression – 40%
- Creativity and Craftsmanship of Costume – 40%
- Stage Presence and Poise – 20%

OVERALL CRITERIA FOR JUDGING:

- Creativity & Accuracy of Character Interpretation – 40%
- Sustainability through the Use of Recyclable Materials – 30%
- Presentation, Poise & Confidence – 20%
- Audience Impact – 10%

AWARDS & PRIZES:

- Champion: ₱10,000 + Certificate
- 1st Prize: ₱7,000 + Certificate
- 2nd Prize: ₱5,000 + Certificate
- Consolation Prizes: ₱2,000 + Certificate each