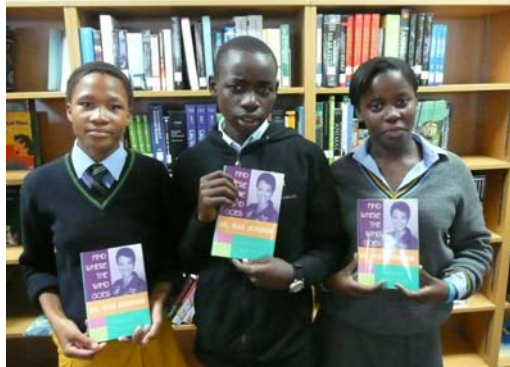


Thanks for your Support in February!

We knew that we had a great reading room — but we were not expecting such enthusiastic support in our first full month of operation.

Our big program of the month — a presentation on human evolution — was attended by 60 Grade 12 pupils. In total, we had 370 visitors in February, and 107 books were checked out. That doesn't count all the books and magazines that you used in the library, not to mention our Internet



Refiloe Nkosi (Tsako Thabo Secondary school), Johannes Sofala (Solomon Mahlangu Freedom School) and Jabulile Ngonyama (Tsako Thabo Secondary School) were the first three members to borrow — AND RETURN — books from the Mae Jemison Science Reading Room.



computers, which are a big hit.

So far nearly 240 pupils and teachers have applied to become members of the reading room, and many of you have already picked up your membership cards, allowing you to borrow books.

How the Books are Arranged on the Shelves

We use Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) to arrange the books on the shelves.

For example, to find books on Chemistry, go to 540. Books on Astronomy are shelved at 520. DDC gets quite specific. For example, go to 599.538 to find a book on river dolphins.

However — books must be in the right place to be found. When you've finished looking at a book, rather place it on a table or trolley if you are not sure of its exact place on the shelf.

March Events

March 4: ExperiLab program on Chemistry for Grade 11 pupils.

March 11: ExperiLab program on rocketry for Grade 12 pupils.

March 18: Database training for teachers: EbscoHost and Teen Health & Wellness.

March 25: Interns from University of Pretoria's SCI-ENZA science center will present an exciting workshop for students.

March 25: Charles H. McGruder, III will conduct a roundtable discussion with teachers.



Dr. Charles H. McGruder, III, William McCormack Professor, Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

His research interests include extra solar planets, gamma ray bursts, and the construction of a worldwide network of fully robotic imaging telescopes.

Year of Science 2009

Theme for March: Physics & Technology

YEAR of SCIENCE 2009
Explore. Empower. Engage...

From the YoS Website (<http://www.yearofscience2009.org>):

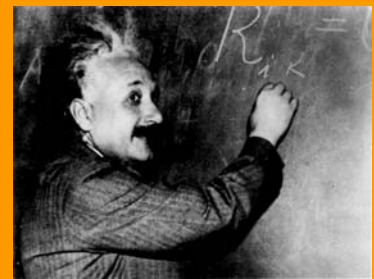
Physics helps us to understand the universe and studying physics is kind of like having a conversation with nature. Physicists ask questions through experiments and models, and nature responds. When the question is a particularly good one, the answer can be unexpected and lead to totally new ideas about how the world works.

- ◆ How did the universe begin?
- ◆ Is it possible to create a real invisibility cloak?
- ◆ What is dark matter?
- ◆ How does popcorn pop?
- ◆ How does radiation therapy help cancer patients?

But physics is more than a conversation - your day is astonishingly reliant on the findings of physics. A day without physics would be a day without cars, iPods, and even chocolate cookies! Cars, iPods, and ovens would be impossible to build without a basic understanding of how the universe works. Can you imagine trying to design an oven without knowing how electricity travels? Or trying to design an iPod without knowing what sound is? These and most of the devices we rely on today are the result of decades of study about how the universe works. Physics and technology go hand-in-hand.

Born in March: Albert Einstein

Albert Einstein (14 March 1879 - 18 April 1955) was a German-born theoretical physicist. He is best known for his theory of relativity and specifically mass-energy equivalence, expressed by the equation $E = mc^2$. Einstein received the 1921 Nobel Prize in Physics "for his services to Theoretical Physics, and especially for his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect." (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Einstein>)



Pi Day

Pi, Greek letter (π), is the symbol for the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. Pi = 3.1415926535... Pi Day is celebrated by math enthusiasts around the world on **March 14th** (3/14 in the American style). (<http://www.piday.org/>)

Einstein DVDs & books in the Reading Room:

Einstein revealed. 2004. DVD: 120 min.

Einstein's big idea. 2005. DVD: 112 min.

M 509 HAK

The story of science : Einstein adds a new dimension / by Joy Hakim. Smithsonian Books, c2007.

M 530.092 CAL

Einstein for dummies / by Carlos I. Calle. Wiley, c2005.

M 523.1 MOR

The complete idiot's guide to understanding Einstein / by Gary F. Moring. Alpha Books, c2004.

