

Lester B. Pearson 15th Anniversary Celebrated by John Rennie

On Friday, May 30, 2014 John Rennie student, Dipesh Patel, demonstrated a 500 CD domino illustrating the initials of the Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB). We inserted a picture of Lester B. Pearson's face in one side of each CD and in the other side the School Board and John Rennie logos.

This project was begun by Dipesh, a resource student, viewing the Librarians' Book Domino in September demonstrating a domino effect using discarded books and spelling out the words "READ". Dipesh wanted to do something similar and suggested that I could buy 5000 dominos. This was not possible, but we all sat down together the next day and brainstormed some ideas. We came up with the idea of CD cases and the company Targray graciously gave us 500 CD cases and wished us good luck in our endeavour. Targray supports many of our Lester B. Pearson students in their work study program.

Dipesh and Yolanda Lichocki (Integration Aide) started off with 50 CD's to see how this would work. As each day went by other students were watching Dipesh and Yolanda create the domino effect. Some grade 11 leadership students offered to help out and Dipesh was delighted to have them help set up the CD cases.

The six boys, Jacob Senecal, Matthew McKirdy, Andrew Fraser-Anzovino, Raphael Machado-Gedeon, Gregory Inose and David Rochette were very excited to work on this project during their lunch hour with Dipesh. They worked well as a team and respected each other's idea. Matthew suggested they start practicing in the Terry Fox gym. This meant we had to ask permission of the gym teacher, Kyle Van de Graaf to use the gym three times a week for two weeks to test it out. He was very accommodating.

As well, Stephanie Paetzold and Angus Mitchell prepared a power point presentation biography on Lester B. Pearson which they presented before the domino was set in motion.

I wanted to display this event for other people to view, to show it on the LBPSB and John Rennie websites for all to enjoy the creativity of Resource and Leadership students. Lester B. Pearson is an inclusive school board and with this event we were demonstrating inclusion at its best.

After Stephanie and Angus finished their power point on Lester B. Pearson, we turned our attention to Dipesh who was anxiously sitting on the gym floor waiting for the okay to push the first CD case. Yolanda gave him the okay and it took 17.5 seconds for all of the 500 CD cases to fall. Dipesh was thrilled that it worked and there were no broken links.

We also invited people from the board to come and see this event. Meg Sinclair (Librarian) and Joan Zachariou (Social Studies Consultant) were delighted with the presentation, and agreed to put a video and pictures together for the Lester B. Pearson Biography website.

Global news and the Gazette were there for the event and interviewed both Yolanda and Dipesh. It was televised on Global news on Friday, May 30th, 2014 and the news article was in the West Island Gazette the following Wednesday, June 4, 2014.

Submitted by: Margo Edwards, Resource Teacher