



Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary

OCT 16 2006

DepED MEMORANDUM
No. 359 s. 2006

SCHOOL CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public Elementary Schools

1. The Department of Education (DepED), through the Health and Nutrition Center (HNC) will celebrate the School Children's Oral Health Awareness Week on October 15-21, 2006 as one of the highlights of the School Health Month in October.
2. The recent National Oral Health Survey in randomly selected public elementary schools conducted by the HNC in coordination with German Development Agency from November 2005 to January 2006 revealed that 97% of six (6) - year old children have tooth decay, hence, the celebration aims mainly to create awareness on the importance of oral hygiene among the school children, teachers and school administrators particularly on its effect on learning outcomes.
3. Some highlights of the week-long celebration are the following activities:
 - a. Start of the "7:00 o'clock daily tooth brushing habit" among Grade 1-3 pupils in all public elementary schools nationwide to scale up the development of tooth brushing as a habit among school children;
 - b. Launching of the "Search for School Dentists with Best Initiatives for Oral Care Package" sponsored by Lamoian Corporation, in partnership with HNC; and
 - c. Conduct of advocacy on oral health in the schools and communities.
4. All school health and nutrition personnel, specifically the school dentists are expected to take the lead in the conduct of the aforesaid activities. Other oral health promotion activities such as oral health education, lectures/symposia and dental services to students and teachers in coordination with the Philippine Dental Association (PDA) local chapters and other stakeholders shall also be provided during the week.
5. Wide and immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

R. C. Bacani
RAMON C. BACANI
Undersecretary

Reference: DepED Memorandum: No. 313, s. 2005

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

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

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
PUPILS
SCHOOLS

Reformatted: Sally-Oral Health Awareness Week
October 11, 2006
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