The Newark Public Library now has fifteen brand new computers for children to use at the Main Library thanks to the generosity of The Rotary Club of Newark. With staff guidance, children are already utilizing these workstations to look up information to complete homework assignments and reports, to type and print those assignments, and to explore educational websites and games. A host of subscription based reference databases are available to students for their research needs.

The Children’s Room staff provides both small group and individualized instruction to children using the computers. Instructional support enables students to receive help in curriculum content areas of mathematics, language arts literacy, science and social studies, and offers continued assistance with independent reports and other presentations. Children’s Librarian, Natasha Osborne, thrilled to have the new computers in the room said, “Together, we are all helping Newark's children achieve academic success on the road to life-long learning as productive citizens.”

The computers were purchased through a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant, secured by the Rotary Club of Newark, a member of District 7470, in union with the Rotary Club of Solapur, India. Instrumental in securing the grant were Rotary Club of Newark officers Joseph Marino, immediate past president; Edward Lee, current president; and John Wilson, Foundation liaison. Rotary Club of Newark members joined Library staff for a dedication in the Children’s Room on April 22.

Joseph Casale, Assistant Director for Finance and Fundraising at the Library and Rotary Club member, expressed his gratitude, "I'd like to thank the Rotary Club of Newark for their generosity to us and by extension to the children of Newark. The computers will certainly go a long way towards enriching the lives of these children who will able to use them for both educational and recreational purposes."

Since learning occurs in and out of the classroom, libraries are one of the most essential community institutions for complementary learning. With support from Rotary International, the Newark Public Library is able to bring new resources and opportunities to the children of Newark.
High-resolution photos available for download at:
https://www.flickr.com/photos/newarkpubliclibrary/sets/72157644387006076