

# Hyde Park School's Annual Read-A-Thon Welcome Packet

Each year the HPS-PTO organizes a Read-A-Thon to help raise money to support field trips for our kids and to meet classroom needs identified by our teachers. This year between October 19<sup>th</sup> through November 9<sup>th</sup>, the entire school will participate in a contest to see which team of students can read the most. Classes will be paired in cross-grade teams, named for children's authors: **Mo Willems, A.A. Milne, Maurice Sendak, Beverly Cleary, Dr. Seuss, Roald Dahl, Laura Ingalls Wilder, J.K. Rowling, Daniel Handler, Shel Silverstein, J.R.R. Tolkien, and E.B.White.**

We kindly ask for your support, by sponsoring a reader, encouraging your student(s) to read, and helping to make this fundraiser a fun experience for the kids. **Prizes will be awarded for the team with the highest amount of minutes read, the team with the highest average of minutes read per student, as well as the top reader in each homeroom.** There will also be a participation prize raffle each. We will also be hosting a virtual Joseph Beth Book Fair the last two weeks of reading.

We hope that every family will participate! If each child collects \$40, that will be over \$20K raised for our school.

***Every child is encouraged to participate no matter how much money they raise. Homerooms with the highest participation (meaning reading logs completed, with or without pledges) will earn a pajama day at school, and free reading time during ELA period on pajama day.***

## Important Dates

- **October 19<sup>th</sup>:** Set reading goals
- **October 19<sup>th</sup> – Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>:** Gather sponsors
- **October 19<sup>th</sup>:** Read-A-Thon Kickoff - first day to read
- **Weeks of October 26<sup>th</sup> – November 6<sup>th</sup>:** Joseph Beth Virtual Book Fair.
- **November 9<sup>th</sup>:** Last day to read
- **November 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>:** Student's turn in minutes read digitally OR drop off printed sheets and pledges in front of school on your assigned A or B day of in-school instruction.
- **November 20<sup>th</sup>:** Winners announced at the end of the day

## Read-A-Thon Instructions

**NEW FOR 2020:** Due to COVID-19 this year we will be providing all materials online for submission. Reading logs and sponsorship information will be sent home from the school as well as accessible through your student's homeroom Schoology page.

**Setting a Goal:** Help your child decide on a realistic number of minutes that s/he can read (or be read) during the reading period, October 19<sup>th</sup>-November 9<sup>th</sup>. Record this at the top of the Reading Pledge Form. ***Only minutes read outside of school (including for homework), count towards this goal.*** Your student may include time spent reading, being read to, or listening to audiobooks.

**Sponsors:** Sponsors are people who agree to support your child's reading by pledging a dollar amount to the Read-A-Thon. This year, we will be sending an online link for your student's team, to make it easier to share with family, friends, and neighbors. Sponsors may pledge either a certain amount per minute **OR** a flat pledge, paid if the child meets his/her reading goal. Use your student's donation page link provided by their homeroom teacher to collect pledges or Pledge Form to record each sponsor's pledge and the amount collected.

**Completing Your Reading Log:** Students will keep track of their minutes on the enclosed Reading Log (an adult must initial each day) or the one on your student's homeroom Schoology page. Due to COVID this year we are encouraging all to use the online resources although there will be an opportunity to submit paper forms at the end of the event. To encourage reading, each Thursday, students are able to enter a raffle by uploading a photo of them and what they are reading to the HPS PTO's padlet page. A winner from all those submitting photos will be announced on the following Friday.

**Collecting Pledges and Turn In Days:** All students are able to submit their final minutes read through the Google form that will be available on their homeroom teacher's Schoology page by **November 9<sup>th</sup>**. Pledges can be made through your student's online page (<https://app.99pledges.com/fund/hydeparkschool>). In the case that online is not convenient for your family, student's are able to drop off their paper forms, cash, and/or checks (made out to HPS PTO) on your group day from **November 10<sup>th</sup> through November 13<sup>th</sup>** outside of the school. Winners will be announced, and prizes awarded, at the end of the day on **November 20<sup>th</sup>**.