

Hyde Park School's Annual Read-a-Thon

Welcome Packet

Each year the Hyde Park School PTO organizes a Read-a-Thon to raise money to support field trips for our kids and meet classroom needs identified by our teachers.

This year, September 28th through October 20th, 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, with names celebrating teamwork and friendship in our favorite children's stories.

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.

Teams with the highest number of minutes read (overall and per student) will earn a pizza party at school. Prizes will also be awarded to the top reader in each homeroom. There will also be participation prizes for returning or submitting your forms at the end.

We hope that every family will participate, as this is our second largest fundraiser of the year and provides so much for our school community!

Every child is encouraged to participate no matter how much money they raise. Homerooms with the highest participation (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

- **September 25th:** Read-a-Thon Kickoff Rally, set reading goals
- **September 25th-October 20th:** Gather sponsors
- **September 28th:** First day to read
- **October 20th:** Last day to read
- **October 21st-23rd:** Submit minutes read and pledge form electronically (preferred) OR turn in reading log, pledge form, and money from 7:30-7:40am at doors 1 & 2. Students will receive Pumpkin Chuck game tickets when forms are submitted.
- **October 29th:** Winners announced at the end of the day. Group picture of winners from each homeroom with their prizes.
- **October 26th-30th:** Scholastic Book Fair in the brand-new library space! Come browse and/or purchase some incredible books.
- **October 30th:** Literary Character Parade
- **November 7th:** Pumpkin Chuck at 12pm

Read-a-Thon Instructions

Setting a Goal: Help your child decide on a realistic number of minutes that s/he can read (or be read to) during the reading period, September 28th – October 20th. Record this at the top of the Reading Pledge Form. Only minutes read outside of school (including 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. We will send an online link for your student's team to share with family, friends, and neighbors. Sponsors may pledge 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).

Collecting Pledges and Turn in Days: All students can submit their final minutes read through the Google Form that will be available through your child's homeroom teacher. Pledges can be made through the school's online fundraising portal (<https://app.99pledges.com/fund/hps2026>) accessible with the QR Code to the left. If you are unable to submit minutes read and pledges electronically (preferred), students are able to drop off paper forms, cash, and/or checks (made out to HPS PTO) from October 21st – 23rd outside doors 1 & 2 during drop-off.



Prizes are awarded for reading!

The team with the most minutes read by all students in the class and the team with the highest minutes read per student (averaged among the number of students) will win a pizza party. The top reader in each homeroom will receive a book store gift card. Homerooms that have the highest participation (classroom reading logs submitted, pledges are not required to win) will earn a pajama day & extra free reading time in class. Simply for turning in their forms by October 23rd, students will receive game tickets to be used at Pumpkin Chuck on November 7th. Winners will be announced, and individual prizes awarded, at the end of the day on October 29th. Winning classroom/team parties will be coordinated with homeroom teachers at a later date.

REMINDER: A Google Form to submit minutes online will be made available during the last week of Read-a-Thon. Reading logs and sponsorship information are in this packet and will also be accessible through your student's homeroom teacher.