

Q: What is the Cherry Crest Read-a-thon?

A: The Read-a-thon is the second major Cherry Crest PTSA fundraiser of the 2019-20 school year. It is similar to the Walk-a-thon held earlier in the year, except we will be reading instead of walking. Students will set a reading goal, gather sponsors to pledge money, read from **Wednesday November 27th through Sunday December 1st** (over the Thanksgiving break), and turn in reading and donation logs to the Read-a-thon collection table (staffed starting 7:40am until start of school) by **Friday, December 6th**. And there are exciting prizes for reading and fundraising! To kick off the event, we will have a school-wide **Pajama & Read-In Day**. So send your kids to school in their PJs and with something to read on **Wednesday November 27th**!

Q: How will the funds raised from the Read-a-thon be used?

100% of the proceeds raised from the Read-a-thon go towards the students at Cherry Crest. Have you ever wondered why no one asks you for money when your child goes on a field trip? It's because the PTSA – not the Bellevue School District - funds 100% of the **field trips** and other events our students participate in as part of the PTSA-sponsored Curriculum Enhancement Program (so think field trips, author visits, at-school workshops like Science on Wheels, the Toymaker, and more!). And did you know that the PTSA pays for extra Cherry Crest instructional staff? So your donations help pay for **extra human hands** around the school and in the classroom that help to improve your child's educational experience! These are just a few ways that the PTSA helps to make Cherry Crest such a great school for our kids, and different from other schools in our district. So, every dollar raised benefits our children!

In other words: The Read-a-thon is super important!

Q: How much money should I try to raise for the Read-a-thon?

A: Our recommended donation is **\$150** per student. Every student who raises \$150 will earn a Cherry Crest Charger bookmark and 50th Anniversary Celebration Pack. Each student who raises \$250 will earn a Cherry Crest Charger journal + pen and a 50th Anniversary Mega Celebration Pack. Donations are tax deductible and eligible for corporate matching so please check with your employer to see if they will match your donations. Matching funds are not factored into prize eligibility.

Q: Do we have a school wide donation goal?

A: Yes! We are hoping to raise **\$30,000** together. This will allow us to meet our budget expectations and allow your PTSA to continue to provide the same level of service for our children's education. So consider participating at any amount that you can. Every single donation helps!

Q: Where do I turn in my Read-a-thon reading and donation log?

A: We will be have a Read-a-thon collection table in the cafeteria prior to school start every morning between Monday December 2nd – Friday December 6th starting at 7:40am. Please return your reading and donation logs to the table as you arrive at school in the morning before heading to class. Do not

turn in your logs to your teachers! All logs need to be turned in at the table by Friday December 6th to be eligible for prizes.

Q: Can I donate online?

A: Yes!! This is the preferred method for donations. You can donate online at <https://ccelementaryptsa.schoolauction.net/rat2019/> or you can submit checks payable to the **Cherry Crest Elementary PTSA**.

Q: What can students win?

A: We have some **seriously awesome prizes** for the Read-a-thon.

- **Top Fundraiser in the School:** Your child wins lunch with Mr Steere and gets to invite 3 of their friends! They also receive an electronic bookmark with a reading timer and light!
- **Top Fundraiser per Grade:** A spot in the Meet-a-Charger display cabinet and an electronic bookmark with a reading timer and light!
- **Top Reader per Grade:** A book signed & selected by our librarian, Ms. Lux!
- **100% Class Participation Prize:** Lunch & Listen in the library with Ms Lux!
- **75% Class Participation Prize:** Extra book to check out from the library during winter break and a class party pack!
- **Cherry Crest Charger Bookmark and Celebration Pack:** Each student who raises **\$150** will earn a Cherry Crest Charger bookmark and a 50th anniversary celebration pack!
- **Cherry Crest Charger Journal and Mega Celebration Pack:** Each student who raises **\$250** will earn a Cherry Crest Charger journal and pen in addition to a 50th anniversary mega celebration pack!

Q: What are some of the different ways to pledge donations?

A: Sponsors can either donate a flat dollar amount, or can donate a certain amount per minute read by their student. Please refer to the Donation Log link on this page for ideas on how to pledge donations.

Q: Lunch & Listen? How do students “participate” to win Lunch & Listen?

A: To “participate” in the Read-a-thon, a student must turn in a signed reading Log to the Read-a-thon collection table. If every single student in a classroom completes this “participation” task, the classroom will earn a Lunch & Listen in the library with Ms Lux! They get to eat lunch in the library while listening to Ms Lux read a book to them.

Q: Extra Book to check out? Class Party Pack? How do students “participate” to win an extra book and a party pack?

A: To “participate” in the Read-a-thon, a student must turn in a signed reading Log to the Read-a-thon collection table. If 75% of the students in a classroom complete this “participation” task, the classroom will earn an additional book they can check out during winter break, and a class party pack!

Q: How will prizes be awarded?

A: Our principal, Mr. Steere, will announce the winners at lunch on **Friday, December 13th**, after which the prizes will be placed in the students’ backpacks (the electronic bookmarks with reading timers and lights can be picked up in the front office).

Q: What counts as reading for this event?

A:

- Books, Magazines, Newspapers
- Audiobooks
- Online Reading
- Materials in languages other than English
- Kids reading to parents & parents reading to kids
- Cherry Crest siblings or friends reading to each other
- counts for both kids – a win/win!
- Think of something that isn’t listed? Here’s a rule of thumb: If your teacher would consider it reading, **then it is.** 😊

Q: Where are good places to find reading materials?

A: Here are a few suggestions:

- **The Cherry Crest Library.** Ms. Lux will allow all students to check out one extra book the week before the Read-a-thon.
- **King County Library.** While there are many branches, the largest one is the Downtown Bellevue branch, at 1111 110th Avenue NE.
- **The Internet.** Every student at Cherry Crest has access to many reading databases – check with your teacher or Ms. Lux if you cannot find your list of logins/passwords.

Q: Where do students find sponsors?

A: A sample letter that students can e-mail or read to friends, family, and neighbors requesting sponsorship is available at <http://www.cherrycrest-pts.org/read-a-thon/>. **All donations are 100% tax deductible**, and are eligible for **corporate matching**. We would like the parents to collect all donations from their sponsors and submit one single combined donation. If you would like receipts for your sponsors for tax reasons, please contact us with details. Students should **NOT** ask strangers for donations – we want everyone to stay safe!

Q: I have more questions. How do I get them answered?

A: Email us at readathon@cherrycrest-pts.org - happy to answer any question you have! This packet and all Read-a-thon forms are also available at <http://www.cherrycrest-pts.org/read-a-thon/>.

Go Chargers!!!
READ, READ, READ!!!