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

**A:** The Read-a-thon is the first major Cherry Crest PTSA fundraiser of the 2021-22 school year. Students will set a reading goal, gather sponsors to pledge money, read from **Wednesday November 24th through Sunday November 28th** (over the Thanksgiving break), and submit donations and reading minutes online by **Friday, December 3rd.** And there are exciting prizes for reading and fundraising! To kick off the event, we will have a school-wide **Pajama Day**. Send your kids to school in their PJs on **Wednesday November 24th**!

**Q: How do I donate?**

**A:** You can make a donation online at <https://ccelementaryptsa.schoolauction.net/rat2021> Donations need to be submitted by Friday December 3rd to be eligible for prizes.

**Q: Where do students submit their Read-a-thon reading minutes?**

**A:** Between Monday November 29h and Friday December 3rd, we will be sharing an online form for students to submit their reading minutes. Students need to submit their total reading minutes by Friday December 3rd to be eligible for prizes.

**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 - supporting important PTSA-sponsored programs like Curriculum Enhancement and [**General School Assistants**](https://www.cherrycrest-ptsa.org/theptsa/gsas/) (extra support in the classroom!!) Since September, GSAs have been supporting students in our classrooms, running many of the small-group learning sessions, and helping our teachers with a variety of classroom content management, grading and other administrative tasks to help our classes run smoothly. GSAs are a crucial element in making Cherry Crest not only an exceptional learning environment, but an exceptional community as well. These are just a few ways that the Cherry Crest 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 water bottle. Each student who raises $250 will earn a Cherry Crest water bottle and a Cherry Crest backpack. 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: What can students win?**

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

* **Top Fundraiser in the School:** Lunch with our principal Mr. Steere for you with 4 of your friends + an electronic bookmark with a reading timer!
* **Top Fundraiser per Grade**: An electronic bookmark with a reading timer!
* **Top Reader per Grade**: A book signed & selected by our librarian, Ms. Lux!
* **70% Class Participation\* Prize:** A special Class Party Pack for the entire class!
* **Cherry Crest Water Bottle:** Each student who raises **$150** or more will earn a Cherry Crest water bottle!
* **Cherry Crest Water Bottle + Backpack:** Each student who raises **$250** or more will earn a Cherry Crest water bottle + a backpack!
* **Bookmark:** Any student who participates in the Read-a-thon by raising a donation or submitting reading minutes will receive a bookmark!

**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.

**Q: How will prizes be awarded?**

**A:** Our principal, Mr. Steere, will announce the winners mid-December**.** We will share additional details regarding the distribution of prizes to students at a later date.

**Q: Where are good places to find reading materials?**

**A:** Here are a few suggestions:

* + **The Cherry Crest Library.** Ms. Lux will share additional details regarding online reading materials 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-ptsa.org/read-a-thon/>[.](http://www.cherrycrest.my-ptsa.org/) **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-ptsa.org - happy to answer any question you have! This packet and all Read-a-thon forms are also available at <http://www.cherrycrest-ptsa.org/read-a-thon/>[.](http://www.cherrycrest.my-ptsa.org/)

Go Chargers!!!

READ, READ, READ!!!