

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

A: Read-a-thon is the first major Cherry Crest PTSA fundraiser of the school year. Students will set a reading goal, gather sponsors to pledge money, read from **Wednesday November 22 through Sunday November 26** (over the Thanksgiving break), and submit donations and reading logs (total minutes read) online by **Friday, December 1** to win exciting prizes! To kick off the event, we will have a school-wide **Pajama Day**. Send your kids to school in their PJs on **Wednesday November 22!**

Q: How do I donate?

A: You can make a donation online at [givebutter](#). Donations need to be submitted by Friday December 1, 2023 to be eligible for prizes.

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

A: Between November 27-December 1, 2023 submit your student's total number of minutes read using our online form at [read-a-thon log 2023](#). Submit by Friday December 1, 2023 to be eligible for prizes.

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

In the Bellevue School District, budget shortfalls are overcome with levies, grants and local fundraising. Cherry Crest PTSA has budgeted approximately \$180,000 this school year to support Cherry Crest Elementary students, families and staff. We have talented teachers who rely on these funds to maintain the educational programs and additional classroom support staff that distinguish Cherry Crest Elementary as a top school. Your donations impact student learning and well-being!

What does this look like?

- Fully funded [Curriculum Enrichment](#) programs selected by our teachers
- Educational materials for each classroom
- Teacher mini-grants
- More opportunities for differentiated learning with four additional [General School Assistants](#) (GSAs)
- Student Clubs (Math, Science, Passport, Running)
- Student Competitions (Art Reflections, Spelling Bee)
- Family Engagement (Online Directory, PTSA Family Dinners, Variety Show, Cultural Fair and more!)

Every dollar raised benefits our children!

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 car magnet. Each student who raises \$300 will earn a Cherry Crest car magnet and a Cherry Crest book tote. 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 **\$50,000** 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. Please donate what is comfortable for your family. Every single donation helps!

Q: What can students win?

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

- **Top Fundraiser per Grade:** Cherry Crest car magnet, Cherry Crest book tote and a "Sip In" for your entire class at Library time! Your child's Library teacher (Mrs. Lux or Mrs. Danielson) will provide hot apple cider for students while they enjoy a special story time and board games.
- **Top Reader per Grade:** Cherry Crest car magnet, Cherry Crest book tote and a rechargeable booklight!
- **Cherry Crest Car Magnet + Cherry Crest Book Tote:** Each student who raises **\$300** or more will earn a Cherry Crest car magnet + Cherry Crest book tote!
- **Cherry Crest Multi-Ink Pen:** Each student who raises **\$150** or more will earn a Cherry Crest car magnet!
- **70% Class Participation* Prize:** an EXTRA RECESS!
- **Bookmark:** Every student who participates in the Read-a-thon by raising a donation or submitting reading minutes will receive a bookmark!

***Participation = any amount of money raised AND/OR any number of minutes submitted in the online form by Friday, December 1, 2023.**

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. Students will need to report back the number of minutes read to sponsors.

Q: How will prizes be awarded?

A: Our principal, Mrs. Stedman, will announce the winners in mid-December. We will share additional details regarding the distribution of prizes at that time as well.

Q: Where are good places to find reading materials?

A: Here are a few suggestions:

- **The Cherry Crest Library.** Mrs. 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 Mrs. Lux if you cannot find your list of logins/passwords.

Q: What counts as reading?

A: Books, graphic novels, comics, magazines, reading aloud (to your friend, your stuffy, your pet...) as well as listening to audio books, podcasts or a read aloud (by your teacher, family member, friend...). Subtitles do not count so no videos, movies or TV shows!

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](#). 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!!!