

April 3, 2017

Dear Providence Academy Family,

Providence Academy is charging its students to a Read-A-Thon to raise funds for the school from April 17<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. The money collected from the Read-A-Thon will go towards the resource library, consumable and non-consumable learning materials, and school expansion funds. A fundraiser that encourages Providence students to read while raising money for their school will make an exciting and successful combination!

Last year we raised a little over \$12,000, so we've confidently set this year's goal at \$15,000! In the event we surpass this amount, the entire school will earn a FREE DRESS DAY!

Thank you to all Providence students, parents, teachers, staff, administrators, and Read-A-Thon volunteers. And thank you to all Providence families, friends, and neighbors who provide support, financial and otherwise, for the Providence Read-A-Thon.

If you have questions about the Read-A-Thon, please contact:

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## What is a Read-a-Thon?

The Read-A-Thon is focused on the amount of time a student reads. This allows students with different reading speeds and reading abilities to compete on a level playing field. It also encourages students to read at or above their current reading level.

Students ask family, friends, and neighbors to pledge money per minute or a flat donation. This information is recorded on the pledge form. Students then track the time they spend reading before, during, and after school and record the amounts on the tally form.

### Step-by-Step Guide for Participating in a Read-A-Thon

- Complete the top of the pledge form.
- Complete the top of the tally form.
- Set a goal for how many minutes you would like to read. This allows the sponsors to have an idea of how much to pledge.
- Get as many pledges from as many sponsors as you can and enter them on the pledge form. **Any donation is tax deductible.**
- Each day of the Read-A-Thon (April 17- 28), **READ** (or have someone read to you)!
- Log the minutes you read on the tally form each day.
- Collect all the pledges listed on the pledge form and calculate the total. **Checks are preferred to cash.** Please make checks payable to **Providence Academy.**
- If you have two or more children, please submit their money and form separate from one another.

### Read-A-Thon Rules & Reminders

- ✓ Time spent reading books before April 17<sup>th</sup> and after April 28<sup>th</sup> does not count.
- ✓ Parents, teachers, friends, and older siblings **MAY** read aloud to the student.
- ✓ Only outside school reading counts.
- ✓ Audio books do not count for Read-A-Thon minutes.

- ✓ The deadline for returning Read-A-Thon pledge form, tally form, and money is **May 5<sup>th</sup>**. Please return the forms and money in the attached envelope to the student's classroom teacher between May 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>. Sufficient time is needed to process the forms, count money, and determine prize winners.
- ✓ All prizes are cumulative. For example, if a student attains a Level 3 prize, he or she also receives the Level 1 & 2 prizes.
- ✓ For every 20 minutes a student reads, he or she will put his/her name on a 20-minute coupon and turn in the coupon sheet on Mondays and Wednesdays. For every 20 minutes a student reads, he or she will be entered in a drawing to win the *Luck of the Draw* prizes!
- ✓ Calculations for determining the classroom prize will take the total number of minutes read by students in any given classroom divided by the number of students in the class.

### Tips for Asking for Pledges

Pledges can be solicited in person or over the phone. Remember - safety first! Always take a parent or adult with you if you choose to solicit pledges in person.

#### Two ways to ask for pledges:

1. Ask for sponsors to pledge a certain amount per minute you read.  
EXAMPLE: Sponsor pledges ten cents per minute and student reads 500 minutes.  
 $.10 \times 500 = \$50.00$  > Sponsor would owe \$50.00
2. Instead of a per-minute pledge, sponsors may choose to donate a flat amount. If the donor chooses a flat donation, you can often collect the money on the spot.

#### Practice Language When Soliciting a Pledge

"Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I go to Providence Academy. We are having a Read-A-Thon to raise money for our school. The money we raise will be used for our school budget, which helps improve our school. We raise money by reading books and asking people to sponsor us for the amount of time we read. I plan to read a total of \_\_\_\_\_ minutes. Will you please sponsor me?"

## **Daily Read-A-Thon Activities**

If you purchased a Read-a-Thon t-shirt, you may wear it every day with your choice of bottoms and shoes!

### **Monday the 17<sup>th</sup>**

Read-a-Thon Kick-Off and Breakfast (provided by Mrs. Hunt)

### **Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>**

Popsicles @ Recess

### **Monday the 24<sup>th</sup>**

Read with a stuffed animal or buddy

### **Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup>**

Picnic Lunch outdoors

# READ - A - THON

**Grand Prize - 2 Top Money Earners**

**Sponsored by The Matteson Group**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place K4-3<sup>rd</sup> - \$100 Amazon Card**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> - \$100 Amazon Card**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Plano Cycling Gift Card**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Bowl-a-Rama Gift Card**

## **Leveled Prizes**

**Level 1 - \$1-\$75 - Treasure Box**

**Level 2 - \$76-\$150 - Braum's Coupon**

**Level 3 - \$151-\$250 - Pizza Hut Coupon**

**Level 4 - \$251-\$350 - Extra 30 Minute Recess**

**Level 5 - \$350 or more - Free Dress Day**

**Top Class Earners (averaged per # of students in class) - Sonic Drinks**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Class Earners (averaged per # of students in class) - Snow Cone Party**