

Bay Farm School's 3rd Annual Read-a-Thon November 19th to November 30th

Our Read-a-Thon is a chance for extended family and friends to help our students develop a lifelong love for reading and raise funds for important programs at Bay Farm School.

Our Goal:

During these two weeks, EVERY single student is strongly encouraged to read for fun and to help raise money for the PTSA along the way. Do what you can, and know that *every dollar counts* and benefits all of our children.

EVERY STUDENT COUNTS. EVERY CONTRIBUTION COUNTS.

Did you know, our PTSA spends approximately \$200,000 per year on various student enrichment programs, staff support and other activities?

Below is a sample of the programs that are *funded or subsidized* by the money raised:

- **Technology**
- **Art Docents**
- **Curriculum Support for teachers**
- **Science Fair**
- **Family Programs (Movie Night, Evening on the Green, Games Night, etc)**
- **Gardening Program PE equipment**
- **Go Green**
- **Safety Patrol**
- **Learning Center support**
- **Field trips (in class and out)**
- **STEAM programs (Robotics Club, Architecture Class, etc.)**
- **Disaster Preparedness Supplies**

Without fundraising, these programs would not exist for our students.

If you have any questions, please contact
Daira Popalardo (Christian's Mom – 3rd grade)
VP of Fundraising – Bay Farm PTSA
dpopalardo@gmail.com or 818-324-5834 (text or call)

Thank for your support and participation!

Read-A-Thon - How it works

- **Track Reading Time**

Read! Read! Read! Students mark off how many minutes they read each day in increments on their reading log. Parents and guardians may help students with this task.

Try to read every day for two weeks. See the “Reading Tips and Strategies” section below for recommended reading times by grade. Write down the number of minutes you read in the reading log provided. **All reading inside/outside of school counts, whether you read or someone reads to you.**

- **Secure Sponsors**

Students share their reading goal with family, and friends, to ask for a **flat donation** to support their efforts! Students should record all donations whether check, cash, or an online donation in their donation log. **Checks should be made payable to “Bay Farm PTSA”. Please include reader’s names, grade and class in the check memo.**

Donations may also be made via PayPal from the read-a-thon donation page on our website: <http://bayfarmptsa.org/fundraising/read-a-thon-donation-page/>

As a safety measure, please do not solicit strangers.

- **Turn in Log and Donations**

All donations should be collected up front (upon initial request) and placed in the envelope provided. All donations need to be turned in to the students’ teacher on the morning of **December 3rd**. Reading and Donation logs must also be returned to your homeroom teacher in the envelope provided, no later than Monday, December 3rd or your entry may not be considered for prizes.

- **Prizes**

Reading and fundraising is hard work! To thank our students, the following prizes will be awarded:

- 1st Place – Student Who Raises the Most Money: PE TEACHER FOR THE DAY
- 1st Place – Student Who Reads the Most Minutes: PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY
- Class[es] with 100% participation: POPSICLE PARTY
- If we raise \$15,000: TEACHER DANCE – Your amazing teachers will perform a dance for you at morning ceremony
- If we raise \$20,000: HAIR COLORING – Wouldn’t it be fun to have a teacher with pink hair? The top three students who read the most minutes will get to change some of our favorite teacher’s hair color at morning ceremony.
- If we raise \$25,000: TEACHER TRICYCLE RACE AROUND THE QUAD
- If we raise \$30,000: ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE – The top three students who raise the most money will get to dump a bucket of ice water on Principal Crawford and some of our favorite teachers at morning ceremony.

Reading Tips and Strategies

Recommended Times

To make setting a daily reading goal easier, listed below are some sample times for each grade. Please work with your child to set a daily reading goal that is a bit challenging, yet attainable given his or her reading level and ability. If you have questions about what is appropriate, please contact your child's teacher.

Kindergarten	10-20 minutes per day
First Grade	15-25 minutes per day
Second Grade	20-30 minutes per day
Third Grade	25-35 minutes per day
Fourth Grade	30-45 minutes per day
Fifth – Eight Grade	30-60 minutes per day

Reading Strategies

- Make this challenge fun for the whole family! Take a trip to the library and stock up on books that interest your child. Encourage and praise your child as they participate and engage in reading anything that is appropriate for their reading level.
- For children in the lower grades listening to adults or older siblings read counts as reading time. For families with students in the upper grades, consider having them read in one room with others who are reading quietly — a family reading night! Or, try reading out loud as a family one night a week while rotating readers.
- Help strengthen your child's reading skills by asking questions about his or her reading in terms of comprehension, recall of details, and discussing the book's theme or ideas.
- We encourage you all to take the challenge of setting a goal and reading daily as well. Show your child that reading is important in your life too. When our children see us reading, they learn the value and joy of it. Have fun reading!

Suggestions for parents on soliciting donations:

- Sponsor your child in the Read-a-Thon!
- Offer to match your child's total collected donations or donations up to a certain amount.
- All donations are tax deductible! Offer a receipt to each donor. You can download blank receipts by visiting <http://bayfarmptsa.org/fundraising/read-a-thon/>.
- Check to see if your workplace will match your donations up to a certain amount.
- Download sample email templates by visiting <http://bayfarmptsa.org/fundraising/read-a-thon/>. These templates will help you and your child quickly write an email to family, friends, and your colleagues.
- Help your child approach at least 10 family members and friends.
- Ask more people for smaller donations of \$5, \$10, \$15, and \$20 in cash, or check (made out to Bay Farm PTSA). It's really easy for donors to make online donations via PayPal. They can donate online by clicking on the following link.
<http://bayfarmptsa.org/fundraising/read-a-thon-donation-page/>

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Student:			
Teacher:			
DONATION LOG			
Name	Cash	Check	Online
<i>Example: Grandma Jill Smith</i>			<i>\$10</i>
<i>Example: Uncle Joe</i>	<i>\$25</i>		
TOTALS	\$	\$	\$
GRAND TOTAL			\$

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Student:		
Teacher:		
READING LOG		
Day	Titles	Minutes
<i>Example</i>	<i>Green Eggs & Ham, Sam I Am, Charlotte's Web, Who was Abraham Lincoln, San Francisco Chronicle,</i>	<i>65 minutes</i>
Monday, November 19 th		
Tuesday, November 20 th		
Wednesday, November 21 st		
Thursday, November 22 nd		
Friday, November 23 rd		
Saturday, November 24 th		
Sunday, November 25 th		
Monday, November 26 th		
Tuesday, November 27 th		
Wednesday, November 28 th		
Thursday, November 29 th		
Friday, November 30 th		
TOTAL MINUTES READ		