

March is Reading Month

Dear Parents:

The month of March is designated as National Reading Month. Even though at Murray Lake we make reading a focus the entire year, we would like to intensify this focus on reading throughout the month of March.

To promote at home reading (this includes a child reading to you, a child reading alone, or you reading to a child) for the month of March, we have set weekly school wide goals for our students. We will track their progress on the bulletin board outside our media center. We have set our school-wide, weekly, at-home reading goal at 500 hours. If our students meet this weekly goal during March, they will be rewarded with the special activities below:

Week 1 (February 29-March 4): Students will earn a Spirit Week. Student Council will pick what the days will be and you will be notified next week.

Week 2 (March 7-March 11): Students will earn an extra recess period, and one “no homework” night!

Week 3- (March 14-March 18): Students will earn an assembly with a magician!

Week 4- (March 21-March 25): Students will earn a POPCORN/Slushy/Educational Movie PARTY!!

Attached to this note are slips for you to fill out and return to us each week. Each hour your child reads at home will be added to our school total (**Please send in signed forms each Thursday or Friday for the first 3 weeks, so we can get a weekly count before the weekend**). Your child will also be able to fill out one AR ticket (the same ticket they fill out for 10 accumulated AR points) for each hour of at-home reading they submit. These tickets will be added to our AR drawing tickets. On Wednesday, March 30, we will have a school-wide assembly and draw for many prizes, including new bikes (**Thank you to our Family Links for donating all of our prizes!**).

We will also be participating in the West Michigan White Caps 2016 Reading Club. Students who read 450 minutes in March will receive two free tickets to Murray Lake Night at Old Kent Park (date has yet to be determined).

Children’s authors Laura and Robert Sams will be in our building on March 14 to help us kick off March is Reading Month. The Sams have written and illustrated several children’s books and have also created children’s videos. You can check them out at www.sisbro.com. We will also have a school-wide assembly next Monday to get the kids excited about March is Reading Month.

There is **NO SUBSTITUTE** for reading. The more a child reads at home, the better a child does in school. Research has shown this time and time again. Please help us by putting forth an extra effort to promote reading throughout the month of March.

Happy Reading!