



Clark Mills School

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

March 2, 2024 marks the 27th annual Read Across America Day. To honor Dr. Seuss's birthday and to celebrate the fun and value of reading, the students and faculty of Clark Mills School will join together and engage in a variety of activities this month to promote a love of reading!

Activities will include:

GUEST/MYSTERY READERS: Staff will be inviting special guests to read to their classes. In addition, Central Office Administration and Board Members have also been invited to read at Clark Mills! We are excited about our guest readers!

THING 1 & THING 2 CLASSROOM TAKEOVER: Thing 1 and Thing 2 will be visiting each of the first grade classes during Read Across America Week and will be getting themselves into some mischief, Dr. Seuss style!

BUDDY CLASSES: Students in different grade levels will be paired up and will spend some time reading to one another and discussing their favorite books. This is one of our optional activities, but such a fun way to share the joy of reading!

BOOKMARK CONTEST: Students will have the opportunity to participate in a grade level bookmark contest. The theme for the contest is "Everyone's included when we read together" to tie into our One School, One Book initiative. Blank bookmarks and directions will be distributed to voluntary participants during media lessons the week of 2/26 and are due by 3/15. One winner per grade level will be chosen, and the winners' bookmarks will be "published" and distributed to all students in that grade level by the PTO.

BOOK CREATOR: Using Bookcreator.com students can combine text, images, audio and video to demonstrate their understanding by creating a digital book! They can create interactive stories, research journals, poetry books, 'About me' books and so much more! Students can use Bookcreator as an optional activity to participate in Read Across America week. Optional ideas might include teaching about a favorite book or character, creating a different ending to a book, or rewriting a story from a different point of view.

BINGO: All students in grades 1-5 will receive a grade appropriate Bingo Board for the month of March. Students will have a parent or guardian sign their BINGO board and bring it back to school by March 28 to be entered into a drawing. If they fill the entire board, their name will be entered into the raffle twice. This reading can go towards your child's daily 30 minutes of reading each night. We will have a raffle for each grade level. Winners will receive a gift card to Four Boys Ice Cream.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS OFFICER KIM: To celebrate our love of reading, every morning on CMTV students will be shown a picture of Officer Kim reading a book with the question, "Where and What is Officer Kim reading today?" Students will have fun figuring out where she is and what book she is reading. Thanks, Officer Kim, for setting a positive example for our students!

RELATIVE READING CELEBRATION: On 3/5 and 3/6, our first graders will participate in an intergenerational reading celebration. Guests such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc., will be joining our first graders for some reading fun!

LUNCHTIME STORYTIME: During lunch each day, students will have the opportunity to listen to a picture book read aloud by someone famous!





WE ARE ALL WONDERS: After having listened to the book, We're All Wonders, read aloud by Mrs. Orlando and Mrs. Gent, the students will receive a template of a t-shirt. Students will decorate the t-shirt with artwork or materials that represent their culture, interests, hobbies, traditions, holidays, and identity. They could complete the attached graphic organizer as a way to plan what they are going to include on their t-shirt. T-Shirt designs will be due by **March 12, 2024**. Every teacher in the school will be displaying the students' t-shirt designs on a bulletin board as a way to represent the diversity amongst the "Wonders at Clark Mills." This is a mandatory project for all students.

ONE SCHOOL, ONE BOOK: CM will be participating in One School, One Book this year! Our school has chosen to read the book, A Boy Called Bat. The PTO will provide teachers with a copy of the book. The PTO is selling copies of the book to families. Students will read and explore the novel with their families and the book will be discussed in school. A school-wide reading schedule will be developed. This event reinforces reading instruction, increases parental involvement, bridges the home-school connection, and builds a true community of readers.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS SCHOOL-WIDE COMPETITION: The 5th grade Battle of the Books teams will be participating in a school-wide competition. They have read 12 books and will answer questions about the books during the competition. The winning team will participate in the district-wide competition at the end of March. Fourth graders will get a chance to see what this is all about at the assembly and will have the chance to sign up next year! Stay tuned!

COLDSTONE ICE CREAM BOOKMARKS: Encourage students to read 5 books during the month of March and complete the ColdStone Bookmark that was given out. These bookmarks can be redeemed at the Morganville ColdStone by 3/31 for a free ice cream!

PTO CAMP READ A LOT READING NIGHT: This event is for students in Grades 1 and 2 on March 6, 2024. More information will be sent out from the PTO. We hope you can join us for some smores and reading fun!

Monday 3/4/24	Tuesday 3/5/24	Wednesday 3/6/24	Thursday 3/7/24	Friday 3/8/24
Let's Kick off the week with a good book (wear sports jersey or t-shirt) 	Cozy Up with a Good Book Wear comfy clothes	Diversity Day Wear something to represent your culture 	Hats off to Reading Wear your favorite hat 	Spike's Got Spirit Spike's psyched about reading, wear school spirit-wear or school colors 

"Read Across America" is designed to encourage adults to read with their children. Please remember that reading is not just a one day or one week event. It is an ongoing, lifelong goal. We want to make reading habit-forming, and we invite you to help us in achieving this goal. We encourage you to read with your children on a regular basis, but especially during Read Across America!

We thank you for your kind assistance, and we all look forward to celebrating reading together!

The Clark Mills Read Across America Committee