

February 2026

Re: Sponsored Read-A-Thon 2026!

Dear Parents and Carers,

The National Literacy Trust has named 2026 the National Year of Reading, and we are delighted to share that we have been working with the school to launch an exciting **Sponsored Read-A-Thon!** Running over a six-week period starting from Saturday 14th February, the challenge will celebrate **World Book Day** halfway through. This is a wonderful opportunity for every child to challenge themselves, celebrate their progress, and help us towards our goal of creating a new educational **sensory garden** for all children to enjoy!

For some children, reading can feel a little daunting. The Read-A-Thon gives them a gentle, encouraging way to practise, grow, and feel proud of every page they complete. For others who already love to read, it is a chance to dive into new stories, explore new worlds, and see just how many books they can enjoy. No matter where your child is on their reading journey, their efforts will make a real difference to them and to the school.

How it works:

- Each child sets a personal goal to achieve - either the number of books they hope to read, or the number of minutes they plan to spend reading over the six-week period.
- Family, friends, and neighbours can pledge sponsorship for their efforts. Every donation, big or small, will edge us closer to creating a calming, engaging sensory garden for all children to enjoy. Sponsorship can be made in cash using the attached form or made on our new website using a card. Make sure that the correct class name is selected if sponsoring online!
- Please keep a simple log of the books your child reads and the time they spend reading on the reading log form. If you need more than one page, the form can be downloaded from our website or copies will be available at the School Office. At the end of the Read-A-Thon, you will submit these totals, your sponsorship form, and any cash to your class teacher. (We will contact you again closer to the end of the Read-A-Thon on what to do next)

To celebrate our readers, each class in Reception & KS1, and KS2 will be in with the chance to win a prize. We will be celebrating:

- The class with the **most books read**
- The class with the **most hours spent reading**
- The class that **raises the most money**

Furthermore, when the Read-A-Thon has finished, all children who have participated will be provided with a certificate, and every child in school will be given a Churchfields PTA bookmark to take home.

Whether your sponsors donate using cash or card, all donors who pay UK Income or Capital Gains Tax will have the option to Gift Aid their contribution which means we can **increase the fundraising by a further 25%**!

We hope this Read-A-Thon inspires children to discover new stories, build confidence, and enjoy the magic of reading - while helping us create a beautiful new space for the whole school community.

Copies of the reading log and donation forms, along with the ability to donate by card is available on our website here - <https://www.churchfields-pta.org.uk/readathon>.

Thank you, as always, for all your support. If you have any queries please raise them with your class rep or email us at churchfieldspta@gmail.com.

Warm regards,

All of us at Churchfields PTA