

FAQs on Read-a-thon 2026

1. What is Read-a-thon 2026?

This is the main student-led fundraising event for the year. In previous years, the main student-led fundraising event was the skate-a-thon, but we have opted for the Read-a-thon this year to encourage more student participation and ownership of the fundraising effort.

2. What is the fundraising target for Read-a-thon 2026?

We are hoping to raise \$20,000 through the Read-a-thon. This amounts to \$300 per family. (This is the same amount as previous years.)

3. When will the Read-a-thon take place?

The Read-a-thon will run from January 19th to February 15th, 2026.

4. What is my child expected to do for Read-a-thon 2026?

Each WCCA student should set a target for the number of books or pages they intend to complete reading over the duration of the Read-a-thon. They should also identify books they plan to read. They should then share this information with potential donors and secure the donors' support for their reading effort. Students will be able to use the [Read-a-thon handouts for donors](#) to facilitate conversations with donors.

Over the course of the month, students should read their targeted number of books or pages. They may choose to update their donors upon completion for accountability.

Ideally, students should complete all their readings by February 15. But if a student needs extra time, they will have two weeks of grace period to complete their reading commitments from February 16 to 28.

5. Why is there an option for books or pages?

We recognize that while reading 20 to 30 books would be feasible for the younger grades, this is not the case for the upper grades, who should be reading more advanced books. We have therefore provided an option for upper grade students to set a target of the number of pages read.

6. What books should my child read for Read-a-thon 2026?

Students are encouraged to refer to the [WCCA reading list](#) for ideas on books to read for Read-a-thon 2026.

7. What are the options for donations?

Donors will have the option to donate i) \$40 per book, ii) \$0.25 per page, or iii) an amount of their own specification. (Donations above \$40 will qualify for a tax exemption.)

8. How will my child update WCCA on the amount they have raised?

Students should fill out the [Read-a-thon pledge forms](#) with the amount of donations their donors have committed to. Students should submit the weekly tally slips to their teachers on Monday (January 26, February 2, February 9) and Tuesday (February 17) during Read-a-thon 2026.

9. How will donations be collected?

Donations can be made online via a QR code on the Read-a-thon handouts that students will give to their potential donors. Where possible, we recommend this method of donation. Alternatively, students and families can collect the donations from their donors, and e-transfer this amount to WCCA at the end of the Read-a-thon.

10. Who is responsible for tracking donor pledges?

We kindly request that parents to follow up with their donors' pledges to ensure their donations will be sent in by February 20, regardless of the method of donation.

11. Are there any activities related to Read-a-thon 2026?

Yes. These are the activities that will be held in conjunction with the Read-a-thon:

- a. Week of January 19 to 23: The [WCCA recommended booklist](#) will be circulated to all students and families. Students should set their target number of books/pages to read and identify books they plan to read. They can then add this information to personalize their Read-a-thon handouts, to facilitate discussions with potential donors.

Note: Should students wish to make additional copies of their Read-a-thon handouts for sharing with donors, they should bring the handouts, with their target books/pages and booklist filled out, to school to be photocopied.

- b. Week of January 26 to 30: **Book Swap Day**. This is intended to facilitate students sharing their reading interests with their classmates. Students are encouraged to bring a book from home and participate in a book swap with their classmates. When participating in the book swap, students should expect to take home a different book from the one they brought. (i.e., books sent in for the book swap will not be returned to the student who brought it in). In line with WCCA guidelines, books sent in for the book swap should not contain pop culture references.

- c. Week of February 2 to 6: Extra reading time in class. Students will be given reading time in class to read and make progress on their Read-a-thon targets. Families of the JK and SK classes are encouraged to participate in reading to these classes. On Thursday, February 5, students are permitted to attend school dressed as their favourite book character. (No pop culture characters.)

- d. Week of February 9 to 13: There will be a special Tuesday Chapel, where our Head of School, Dr. Bott, will share about the creative process and his experience in writing children's books. There will also be hot chocolate served at dismissal on February 12th to celebrate the students' achievements at the Read-a-thon 2026.

12. Will there be an update at the end of Read-a-thon 2026 on the total amount raised?

Yes, there will be an update to the school community at the end of Read-a-thon 2026 on the total amount raised. Families should feel free to share this update with their donors. We think it is a nice gesture to keep our donors updated and aware of the significance of their contributions.

For the duration of Read-a-thon, we will also be tracking the amount raised on a weekly basis. This will be displayed on the glass doors at the side entrance to the school so that students and families can follow along on the fundraising progress.