



**“Through books we learn the mastery of words,
the essential skill that will enable us to achieve our potential.”**

Michael Morpurgo

Dear Parent or Guardian

We are running a **Readathon Sponsored Read**, beginning on **May 23rd** and ending on **13th June**, and we'd like your child to join in.

Readathon is the UK's national sponsored reading event for schools. **Readathon** encourages children to read for pleasure - an activity proven to increase children's chances of success and personal happiness for the rest of their lives. (*Source: OECD*)

Readathon motivates reluctant readers to give reading a go, and keen readers to read more widely. It works because children choose what they want to read – they are not being assessed, it's all about reading for fun. We would like you to support them, in particular by sponsoring them. The money raised helps the charity Readathon to regularly give brand new books and storyteller visits to children's hospitals across the UK. For more information, check out your child's sponsorship card and visit www.readathon.org.

Sponsors can pay by cheque or cash, or pay online by www.readathon.org/sponsor. Please do support your child's reading efforts. Research tells us again and again that children who read for pleasure are more likely to have successful outcomes. Above all, we hope they have fun!

As well as encouraging pupils to read for fun, our school will get free books worth 20% of our sponsorship total – so there really is something in it for everyone.

What we'd like you to do:

1. Your child's been given a **Readathon sponsorship card** on which to list whatever they will enjoy reading. Books, e-books, poetry, comics – anything goes! Take a look at what they plan to read, or help them complete their list of books – sharing books is fine too (in fact recommended!), as well as listening to audio books.
2. **Help your child find sponsors among family and friends.** Sponsors can pay directly on line at www.readathon.org/sponsor or by cash or cheque made out to Readathon and sent to school. Please also encourage UK tax payers to tick the GiftAid box - Readathon will then be able to claim an extra 25% from the Government at no cost to the donor.

For any more information please visit www.readathon.org.

Thank you for your support – and happy reading!

Best wishes,

Mrs Nicholls and the English Department.