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

Michael Morpurgo

1 March 2019

Dear Parents

### **Readathon 2019**

We are running a Readathon Sponsored Read to celebrate World Book Day and we'd like your child to join in.

Readathon is the UK's national sponsored reading event for schools. It 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](http://www.readathon.org).

Sponsors can pay by cheque or cash, or pay online by [www.readathon.org/sponsor](http://www.readathon.org/sponsor). Please do support your child's reading efforts. 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:

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. The Readathon will last until the end of the Easter holidays and donations and sponsor cards need to be completed and returned to school by Friday 26 April.

Help your child to find sponsors among family and friends. Sponsors can pay directly on line at [www.readathon.org/sponsor](http://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](http://www.readathon.org). Thank you for your support and happy reading!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Fryer'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a long, sweeping tail.

**Mrs C Fryer - Head of English**