



READ ACROSS AMERICA

February 16, 2017

Dear Parents,

As part of the Garwood Public Schools Read Across America celebration focusing on books and the benefits of reading, we are encouraging our students to participate in a voluntary week-long reading marathon. Let's see if we can read our way across America and around the world by collectively reading over 24,901 pages in one week (24,901 stands for the circumference—in miles—around the world.)

Please use the chart below to record the number of pages of leisure reading done by your Pre-K through eighth grade student on a nightly basis. (Reading material includes age-appropriate books-- other than school-related homework/reading--that students read to themselves, to their parents, and/or to younger siblings.) Parents are asked to initial each day's box; students are asked to return the completed tally sheet on Tuesday, February 28. If we, as a school, successfully read over 24,901 pages in one week, one participant's tally sheet from each grade will be randomly drawn. Each of these ten students will be presented with a gift certificate (provided by the Student Council) for a local bookstore.

Read Across America activities will continue through March with pairing/sharing activities, readings from Dr. Seuss books, and our annual book swap. (Book swap information may be found on the back of this log.) Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. (tbenc@garwoodschoos.org) Many thanks and happy reading!

The GPS Read Across America Committee

***** DETACH HERE *****

Student's name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Table with 3 columns: DATE, BOOK TITLE (S) and NUMBER OF PAGES, PARENT/GUARDIAN INITIALS. Rows include dates from Tuesday, Feb. 21 to Monday, Feb 27, and a TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES row.

REMINDER: This tally sheet must be returned to the homeroom teacher on Tuesday, Feb. 28 in order to be entered in the random drawing. Any sheets returned after this date will be used to tally our pages but cannot be entered in the drawing.

READ ACROSS AMERICA BOOK SWAP



“GIVE A BOOK, GET A BOOK”

February 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In honor of the birthday of Dr. Seuss and Read Across America Day, we are preparing for Lincoln School's **ninth** annual winter book swap. All students are encouraged to participate. The concept is simple: For each book a student donates (up to five), he or she picks another *gently used* book donated by a fellow student. This is a great way to clear your bookshelves and encourage a love of reading in your child! **It's fun and it's free!**

Please use the following guidelines when selecting books from home to donate:

1. All books, fiction or non-fiction, must be **new** or **gently used**. Books with missing or yellow pages, crayon marks, torn covers, or other obvious damage cannot be accepted. No board books, please.
2. Students may donate one to five books. Homeroom teachers will keep track of the number of books donated by each student. **Families may donate more than five books**, but students will only be permitted to swap for a maximum of five books. Of course participation is voluntary.
3. Books may be dropped off in homeroom from Tuesday, February 21 through Wednesday, March 1. No donations can be accepted after March 1 due to the time needed to sort and organize books in preparation for the swap. ***Students and their classmates will visit the book swap room starting March 2, Dr. Seuss's birthday. Visits will continue through March 3.***
4. Please send in books at your child's reading level or slightly above or below. (In years past we have received generous donations of elementary books but few middle school books. **Students in the upper grades did not have a wide selection from which to choose. We NEED more upper elementary and middle school books.**)
5. **IMPORTANT: Before sending in young adult literature, please page through the book and evaluate its contents.** As we sort the books by grade level, we will be checking the **condition** of each book **but not the appropriateness of the content. Books with mature themes and content may not be suitable for some readers; please do not include them as part of your donation.**
6. After the swap, extra books will be given to students who may not have any books of their own. Any remaining books will be given to Language Arts teachers for use in their classrooms.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at tbenc@garwoodschoools.org if you have any questions. We have collected and swapped **nearly 5000 books** during the events of 2009-2016. Hundreds of happy children enjoyed books that were new to them! With your participation we look forward to another successful event.

Mrs. Tamara Benc, Coordinator