



# Neil Cummins READATHON

Dear Neil Cummins Kindergarten Families,

The Neil Cummins PTO is pleased to announce the return of the beloved **Readathon!** The Readathon aims to develop our children's love for reading while simultaneously raising funds for much-needed programs and resources that help our school and students thrive throughout the year. On Readathon day - **January 25, 2023** - each student from Kindergarten to 5th grade will spend about 300 minutes reading (or being read to) and doing reading-related activities. That's 175,000 minutes of reading across all students!

**What happens on Readathon Day?** Our magical Kindergarteners will get lots of support on Readathon Day, including **a visit from a local Bay Area author** (*more on that to come*). Most Kindergarteners will also enjoy reading time with guest readers in their classrooms, time for coloring bookmarks, a visit from their buddy classroom, and doing grade appropriate reading games. Your child will also receive a special Readathon tote to bring some books from home or the library to school on Readathon Day. The school day will be primarily focused on reading, with lunches and snack times happening as usual.

**How do we fundraise?** From **January 5 - February 10, students will collect pledges** from family, friends, neighbors and beyond, in support of their reading efforts on Readathon day. Each student will have a personal donation webpage (hosted by 99pledges.com) to collect donations online. You will receive an email with a link to your child's donation page which you can share with family and friends to request pledges of support. It's also fun to make videos about the Readathon and why your student likes to read and share them with people who may donate. Whether they raise \$2, \$20, \$250 or more; it all goes towards our school, so please support your child and help them participate in this event. **Our goal is for each student to participate and for us to reach 100% participation at our school.**

**Why do we fundraise?** The Readathon is the primary PTO fundraiser each year and **our goal for 2023 is to raise \$65,000** so that the PTO can provide Neil Cummins with vital programs, projects & events:

- Teacher classroom supplies and instructional materials
- Professional development for teachers
- School events (such as Friday Socials and Holiday Store)
- Additional library books and materials
- Parent Education Events
- Joni DeGabriele Musical Moments and Social Emotional Learning Program
- Alan Scofield Storytelling Program
- Alan Scofield Miwok Connections and Dance Program
- Ecology and Campus Beautification & Hawks' Garden
- Campus projects (such as the new blacktop re-stripping, new Neil Cummins entry signs, two new murals)
- ...and so much more!

Visit [www.neilcumminsreadathon.com](http://www.neilcumminsreadathon.com) anytime to learn more about the Readathon, answer any questions you may have, get book recommendations to inspire your child, and more. Please email us if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!

The Neil Cummins Readathon Team