Memo

To: Teaching Teams

From:

Re: December Read-a-thon

Date:

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To celebrate early literacy, family engagement and the upcoming New Year, all classrooms will be participating in Read for 2019. Families will have a goal of reading for 2019 seconds each week (approximately 5 minutes a day). All month long, families will be reading at home and tracking their time on their Home School Connection forms as well as tracking their books on their party favors. In the classroom, we will be celebrating with guest readers and special activities. You may wish to plan a special event to celebrate your reading success. You can individualize the classroom celebration so that it compliments your classroom theme and goals and your classroom schedule. Please encourage family participation. You can also invite other guest readers i.e. public school teachers, community members etc. You have all received flyers, party favors and calendars. Sign-up sheets for families are attached. Please let me know what I can do to support you.

Below are just a few ideas that we pulled from the Scholastic web site in the past. Be creative! This is the first of 3 Read-A-Thons planned for this school year. We are planning another event to coincide with Read Across America in the Spring and yet another for Week of the Young Child.

**Theme Party Ideas** (just a few)

***Reading Camp Out***Hang mini-lights overhead, create a (pretend) campfire, and have your students bring in a favorite blanket to read "under the stars." Play a CD of night sounds, if available.

***Pajama Party***An all-time favorite! Have students bring in pajamas, a pillow, blanket, and favorite stuffed animal to read their favorite bedtime stories. After reading have a bedtime snack!

***Reading Is Cool***Students read books with winter themes. Each one filled out a "cool book" snowflake that read: "I read a cool book. “ Include the name of the book and the name of the child. *Let me know if you need precut snowflakes.*

***Food from Other Cultures***Read about foods from the different countries and plan a special lunch for the day of the event. *Provide the kitchen staff with plenty of notice.*