

Barnes Farm Junior School

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**Inspiring children to read
is one of the greatest gifts you can give them.
I'd recommend Readathon to anyone."**
Julia Donaldson, former Children's Laureate

We are running a **Readathon Sponsored Read** and we'd like your child to join in.

It will run from Monday 3rd March to Friday 14th March

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 even reluctant readers to read more books because:

- simply by reading, they will raise money for seriously ill children
- they'll earn free books for their school worth 20% of their total
- there are no set books or tests – they just read whatever they like

Readathon helps fund the important work of four UK children's charities:

- **ReadWell** supplying free books and storytellers to children in hospital
- **CLIC Sargent** for children and young people with cancer and their families
- **Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity** for the seriously ill and disabled
- **Together for Short Lives** supporting children's hospice services

Here are **two easy things** you can do to help your child play an active part in our **Readathon** and make the school's campaign a success - to everyone's benefit:

1. Take an interest in your child's Readathon reading challenge

They've been given a **Readathon** sponsorship card on which to list whatever they will enjoy reading. Books, e-books, comics, magazines – anything goes! Sharing a book with an adult or listening to an audio book is fine too.

2. Help your child find sponsors among family and friends

Please also encourage UK tax payers to tick the GiftAid box and fill in their name and address as instructed on the card. **Readathon** will then be able to claim an extra 25% from the Government at no cost to the donor.

**Please ensure your child returns his or her sponsorship card and money before our
Readathon closing date: Monday 24th March
Thank you for your support – and happy reading!**