



Reading Rally 2023 FAQs

What are the Important Dates I should remember?

- **Monday, January 9 at 8:30am** (Small Chapel and Zoom) **or 7:30pm** (Zoom only) – Rookie Moms Meeting for Class One and New Moms (all moms welcome to attend)
 - Zoom Link for 8:30am meeting: [Morning Meeting Link](#)
 - Zoom link for 7:30pm meeting: [Evening Meeting Link](#)
- **Thursday, January 12 at 6:30am:** Reading Rally Begins – Kickoff events held that day
- **Every Sunday:** Electronic Reading Rally Logs due at 10:00pm to RRLogs@pectx.org (*Classes 7-8: reading logs due on the first day of the school week to their English teacher*)
- **Week 1:** Thursday, January 12 – Sunday, January 15
 - Note: This is a holiday weekend, but logs still due on Sunday.
- **Week 2:** Monday, January 16 – Sunday, January 22
- **Week 3:** Monday, January 23 – Sunday, January 29
- **Week 4:** Monday, January 29 – Sunday, February 5
 - **Thursday, February 2:** Special visit from Joe Sutphin, illustrator of the new edition of *Little Pilgrims Progress*. See details below.
- **Sunday, February 5:** Reading Rally ends – logs due by 10:00pm
- **Friday, February 10:** Overall individual and class winners announced at Chapel. For families with outstanding pledges, collection envelopes will be sent home with the youngest student in each family.
- **Friday, February 17:** Pledged donations due by this date. Turn in all checks in the provided envelope and/or ensure online donations are complete.

Is participation required?

Reading Rally is *mandatory* for all students in Classes One through Six, and strongly encouraged for Classes Seven through Eight.

Why does Providence have a Reading Rally?

Reading Rally is the single largest fundraiser for our scholarship fund. The intent of the Rally is to raise money for scholarships and enhance each student's reading proficiency by reading great literature.

How do I begin asking for pledges and donations?

Great question! Keeping in mind the intent of the Rally, we encourage student participation on this front. Students (with your help if needed) can consider reaching out to family, friends, and even businesses to sponsor their reading efforts—either in a lump sum donation or a pledge per minute read. We have found in-person visits, phone calls, texts, and personalized letters all to be effective. A sample donation request letter can be found on the Parent Portal or on the Providence App on the Reading Rally page.

Where can I find the Reading Rally documents?

All documents are available on the Providence “[Parent Portal](#)” online and on the Providence App. In both, click on the Reading Rally heading to be directed to all documents.

Note: There are fewer documents this year, and they are not separated by class as in prior years. The documents available contain all necessary information you need for success!

How should I guide my child in choosing a reading goal?

This service project, like any other, will involve sacrifice. Students will sacrifice some of the ways in which they spend their after-school and weekend time; moms and dads will put aside to-do lists to read intentionally to their children. The reading goals are designed to encourage thoughtful, enjoyable reading by families. We encourage you to visit with your children about how family time will change for a month as you discuss their reading goals.

What do I need to have my child turn in each week?

Classes 1-6: Each student is required to keep a Reading Rally Log (available in Excel and Numbers format) of minutes read and pledges solicited. Logs are due each Sunday evening and should be emailed to Master Tallier at rrlogs@pcstx.org by 10:00 pm.

Class 7-8: Each Monday (unless it lands on a holiday), students will report their minutes on a paper reading log during English class. Do not submit reading online. However, pledges are submitted online using the Class Seven and Eight Pledge Log. You can email your child’s Pledge log to Master Tallier at rrlogs@pcstx.org or your child can submit a hard copy to their English teacher. *If your child will be absent on a Monday*, you may email the reading minutes to the English teacher or rrlogs@pcstx.org by noon.

All the Reading Rally Logs are available on the Parent Portal. For all the details you need to log minutes and pledges, please read the Welcome Tab of the Excel/Numbers Spreadsheet.

Is there a tool to track Minutes Read and Pledges Received during the week before I complete the electronic Reading Rally Log each Sunday?

Yes, we have provided Worksheets for you or your student to use during the week before entering your final minutes into the electronic Reading Rally Log. In the Reading Rally Log Excel/Numbers doc, you will see Tabs labeled: Reading Worksheet and Pledge Worksheet. These are *printable tools* for you and your student to use each week to track your minutes and pledges. You may use these worksheets to fill in the electronic log each Sunday evening.

What Are Reading Rally Kick-Off Events and Kick-Off Bonus Minutes?

On Thursday, January 12, there will be fun Reading Rally Kick-Off event for Classes 1-6 in which a representative for each grade will compete in games to earn these bonus minutes for their classmates. After the event, you will be notified of your child's Kick-Off Bonus Minutes by your class's room mom. These bonus minutes are recorded in Week One of the Reading Rally Log.

Week 1 is a short week! Are incentive minutes adjusted accordingly?

Yes, you will see on the Reading Rally Log that Week 1 reading incentive goals are prorated for the shorter week.

Why do I need to keep the Record of Books Read in my child's folder?

A hard copy RECORD OF BOOKS READ should be kept in your student's folder or binder at all times so that teachers may reference these lists at their convenience to ensure quality material is being read. **NO documents are emailed or given directly to the teacher.** The Master Tallier will send a detailed report of students' efforts to each teacher weekly.

Why are there Double-Dad and Double-Bible Minutes, and how do they work?

We award double minutes for time reading with Dad and time reading the Bible to encourage and reward Dad participation in Reading Rally and to encourage time in God's Word. Please refer to the Reading Rally Guide 2023 – Bonus Minutes section for a detailed explanation on how these doubled minutes should be recorded.

Classes 7-8: No doubled or bonus minutes

Do Daily Assigned Reading and Daily Bible Reading Count for Rally Minutes?

Yes, please refer to the Reading Rally Guide 2023 – Rules section for further detail.

What are Reading Rally Choice Books?

There are two types of Choice Books—grade-level books and family read-aloud books. Each student may receive 200 Choice Book Bonus Minutes (100 per book) by choosing to read one grade-level choice book and/or one family read-aloud choice book. The Summary tab on the Excel Reading Log will ask if your child completed one or more of these books. You will simply answer “yes” to add the bonus minutes to your child's log. Each student is limited to earning 200 total Choice Book Minutes.

- Grade-level Choice Books (read by the student): Any book from the “35 Great Books List” by gradefound at: www.pctx.org/community/reading-lists
- Family Read-Aloud Books (read by the parent) displaying the 2023 Reading Rally Theme Creatures of Courage:

Little Pilgrim's Progress by Helen Taylor (the new ed. illus. by J. Sutphin features animals)

Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame

The Green Ember series by S.D. Smith (any one book from series)

White Fang by Jack London

Watership Down by Richard Adams

ANY Lamplighter Book (Some examples include *Probable Sons*, *The Hedge of Thorns*, *The Golden Thread*, *Charlie's Choice*, *Buried in the Snow*, *Shipwrecked* – and many are on the 35 Great Books Lists!). Many Lamplighter books are in the Providence library, and the full list is available online at www.lamplighter.net.

What are Reading Rally Class Parties? Do they occur on a specific date/time?

For Classes 1-6, each class section may plan a reading party after school to read and earn minutes together. Should your class choose to have a reading party, your class's Reading Rally Party Coordinator will provide your class's party details. (*Note for clarification: these class-planned reading parties are separate and distinct from the Feb. 16 end-of-rally pizza parties, which are organized by Reading Rally Incentive Chairs and awarded only to the Overall Top Reading and Pledge sections in each grade.*)

Date/Time? Your class's Reading Party Coordinator (along with your teacher) will plan a convenient date/time and obtain approval from Marin Stone (mstone@pcstx.org).

Number of class reading parties allowed? Your class may have one class reading party on campus, after school hours (date/time must be confirmed with Marin Stone). Should your class wish to gather again to read together, it may be organized off-campus.

Length? Up to 2 hours

What is the Joe Sutphin event? Can parents attend?

We are thrilled to welcome celebrated illustrator Joe Sutphin to Providence during Reading Rally. Mr. Sutphin has illustrated the new edition of *Little Pilgrims Progress*, the *Wingfeather Saga*, an upcoming graphic novelization of *Watership Down*, and many more children's books. Mr. Sutphin's love of nature and living creatures inspires his art, and we are excited for our students to hear from him.

Date/Time Details:

Thursday, February 2

8:30-9:00am: Classes 3-4

9:20-9:50am: Classes 1-2

11:25am-12:15pm: Classes 5-8

Should specific class times change, you will be notified via the Monday Memo.

Parents are welcome to attend. If your child would like a signed book, it must be pre-purchased and brought to the Great Hall at the time of the event. Providence Librarian Melissa Miller will ensure your student's book is signed and returned to his or her classroom.

Further questions on this event? Contact Melissa Miller at mmiller@pcstx.org.

Additional Reading Rally Questions?

Please contact Reading Rally Chairs:

Karen Stone and Elizabeth Viney at ReadingRallyChairs@gmail.com

Classes Seven and Eight: Please contact Eileen Ohanian at eohanian@pcstx.org