



September 2023

Dear 4th and 5th grade families,

Redmond Elementary students will again be able to participate in the annual Amazing Reading Challenge. This is a “Battle of the Books” style program that allows 4th and 5th graders to work together as a team to correctly answer questions about the selected books. The goal is to encourage students at all reading levels to engage in teamwork while reading some of the best in children’s literature. The six titles were selected by a panel of LWSD Librarians and challenge questions are based on specific and factual information within the books.

This year’s books are **Rez Dogs** by Joseph Bruchac, **Hoops** by Matt Tavares, **Song for a Whale** by Lynne Kelly, **Battle Dragons: City of Thieves** by Alex London, **Ben Yokoyama and the Cookie of Doom** by Matthew Swanson & Robbi Behr, and **Chunky** by Yehudi Mercado.

Initially, a challenge is held at the individual school level, which will be in February 2024. The top team from Redmond Elementary will proceed on to a semi-final competition against other schools in Lake Washington (late February to early March 2024) and then a final contest in late March. If we have more than 7 teams participating, we will do an in-school elimination round to determine the teams who will compete in the official challenge.

Students will be on teams consisting of six students, and practice with other 4th and 5th grade teams from our school. They will need to read their books at home, then come to weekly practices in the school library during lunch recess time. Occasional meetings will be held in October through December, and we will have weekly practice sessions and mock challenges in January.

If you are interested in participating, please fill out the permission slip and return it to me in the library by **October 13, 2023**. You may request up to three other people to be on your team, but final teams will be determined by me and the classroom teachers. If you have any questions, please contact me at hjones@lwsd.org or via Parent Square.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jones

Redmond Elementary Librarian