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NEWS

Verona Area School District
Sugar Creek 'loves' to read

Around 200 families join for annual read aloud event on Feb. 22

By Maddie Bergstrom Staff reporter

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Sugar Creek Elementary School held a "Love to Read" night on Thursday, Feb. 22, where families could listen to three different read aloud rotations in English or Spanish.

Photo by Maddie Bergstrom

The halls of Sugar Creek Elementary School echoed with excitement on Thursday, Feb.22 when nearly 200 students and their families got together to celebrate a common love of reading.

Whether it was catching up with some school friends after hours, enjoying the company of cuddly dogs or laughing along to a book, there were surely memories made at the school's annual "Love to Read" night.

Sugar Creek reading teacher Ramona Doberstein said the event aims to share the love and importance of reading with families and the community. At the same time, it serves as an opportunity to share information about programming within the school and resources in the community.

The event featured three different read aloud rotations in classrooms throughout the school. Stories were read in either English or Spanish by Sugar Creek teachers, Verona Area High School students or community members.

Photos: 'Love to Read' night

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Sugar Creek Associate Principal Laura Marquardt reads "Leonardo, the Terrible Monster" to students.

Photo by Maddie Bergstrom

In the cafeteria, attendees could make hot chocolate, eat some cookies or color their own bookmark. Kismet Books provided a wide variety of options for families to browse through, while the Verona Public Library shared information and resources.

The cafeteria also featured a box for attendees to contribute to Sugar Creek's "Great Book Exchange." Once a family is no longer reading a book in their home, they can donate it to the Great Book Exchange in anticipation of the event in June, Doberstein said. At this time, all students get to bring a new book home with them.

A quick walk from the cafeteria brought families to some of the most popular rooms of the night. Here, therapy dogs – brought in by staff members and Dogs on Call – calmly accepted pets from families and listened to quite a few stories themselves throughout the event.

Sugar Creek Principal Todd Brunner shared information with families about the school's Title I designation, which provides federal funding to support students who are the most at risk of falling behind.

Doberstein said this year's event was full of excitement, noting a new teacher in the building commented, "This was an amazing event – families and children were so happy!"

Contact reporter Maddie Bergstrom at mbergstrom@wisconsinmediagroup.com

MORE INFORMATION

The image features a large, white, serif font logo for RIT (Rochester Institute of Technology) centered on a solid orange background. The letters are bold and spaced out.

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