Dear families,

Each March, Wines school comes together to celebrate reading through March is Reading Month. Like spring, we hope to refresh and rejuvenate our young readers. It is a perfect opportunity for families to reset home reading patterns and to model and encourage recreational reading.

Our theme this year is Be a Pathfinder! Discover your own world of reading! Each one of us has a unique interior world informed and inspired by our reading. We have been discussing how you can’t set your path; you create your path by walking it. Reading one book leads to another and another. Our interests change, our knowledge changes, our choices adapt to the new person we are becoming. Where will we go? We might be surprised! We will be reflecting on this personal world of reading this month. Second through fifth graders will create maps illustrating their world. We will be creating winding paths on the hall walls celebrating our favorite books in various genres. It is so much fun to see where we are alike and where we are unique with our favorites.

Is reading a priority in your family? March is an opportunity for parents to emphasize the joys of reading, by reading together, discussing favorite books, and visiting the district library. I am sending home an activity calendar with suggestions for each day that I hope you will enjoy. This calendar also notes some of our special events.

If you would like to extend this theme, you might consider exploring the world through maps, which fascinate many children. Share your favorite fairy tales with your family. Why do you enjoy certain types of books? Are there topics that you would like to explore together?

How does it work? Reading tally sheets go home each Wednesday and are returned the following Thursday in the Wednesday folder. This is a slight change from last year. Parents will initial the form each night indicating how many minutes their child read. Please record all minutes above the daily goal! Kindergarten and first grade families can include read aloud time in their tallies. Every Thursday, our Student Council members will tally up the minutes during their lunch recess and the bulletin board outside of the library will be updated with our progress.

All Wines students are expected to participate to meet our goal.

What is our goal? Our goal is to read 200,000 minutes in four weeks. Our reward? Dr. DeYoung will do something truly silly and we will have one of our favorite all-school recesses!

Reading goals:
Kindergarten: 10 minutes daily
First Grade: 10 minutes
Second Grade: 15 minutes
Third Grade: 20 minutes
Fourth Grade: 20 minutes
Fifth Grade: 30 minutes

FAQs: Lose a sheet? Send in your child’s minutes on regular paper. Missed the Thursday deadline? All minutes will count, so please return it nevertheless. Tally sheets should be returned to the classroom teacher or the library.

You don’t know where you are going until you get there! Best wishes, Sally Evaldson