

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This year Banyan's Fall fundraiser will be a Read-A-Thon, which not only provides funding for music, art, physical education programs and classroom supplies, but also supports each student's personal reading development goal. Students will be challenged to read (or be read to) for at least 200 minutes while reaching out to family and friends for pledges over the 14-day fundraiser. The students will be responsible for recording their minutes daily between Tuesday, November 2nd and Monday, November 15th.



Setting Up Your Student

The easiest way to record minutes is on the online platform.

<https://app.99pledges.com/fund/banyanelementary>

You can register your child (first name, last initial and parent email address) by scrolling to the bottom of the page and clicking "add participant". Choose their "team" or teacher from the drop-down menu. You must add at least one email address to have access to the private profile management page where you can log minutes each day.

99 Pledges is our online platform for this Read-A-Thon. They do not sell any information to third parties or market to parents. Your email address will only be used for reminders during the fundraiser.

How to Support the Read-A-Thon Fundraiser

After your student is registered, you will have a direct link to their donation page. Simply make a donation for whatever you can and share your child's link with friends and family. 99pledges only charges an online processing fee of 2.9% plus 30 cents per transaction which ultimately means more money for our school. There is no charge for cash or check donations (please make checks payable to Banyan PTA).

After entering a donation amount you will see a place to leave 99Pledges a "tip". If you do not wish to give 99Pledges a tip, use the drop-down menu, select 'other', and leave the window that appears blank. This tip is completely optional and goes directly to 99pledges to offset the cost of running their site.

Student and Class Rewards

We will have lots of prizes! Many of them have been generously donated from parents, teachers, and businesses.

We will have three prize levels:

Level 1: for setting up an account with 99pledges

Level 2: for reading 100 minutes and \$1/minute in pledges

Level 3: for reading 200 minutes and \$1/minute in pledges

For flat donations or company match donations, we will divide the total by minutes read. Please email banyanbookworm@gmail.com with any company match donations so we account for those!

Students can earn more than one prize in a level if they want to read more! We will also have grand prizes for the top readers and top fundraisers in each grade level (TK will be grouped with Kinder) and a pizza party for the class in each grade level that has the most minutes. (We will adjust for class size.)

Students may check out 2 books at a time from the Banyan Library at <http://cvusd-ban.goalexandria.com/search>. Each student's user name is their student ID#. Their password is their last name in all lower case. Mrs. Ludlow delivers books directly to classrooms. Students can return books in the cart in front of Room 12 (green pod).

Prize tables will be set up on Friday, November 5th, 12th, and 19th during first recesses. We will have lists of student names with their minutes and pledges, so students can just visit the tables at recess and don't need to bring anything. They only need to remember to record their minutes on the website and ask friends and family to donate!

If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Shaffer or Brandi Williams at banyanbookworm@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!