

# Van Rensselaer Elementary School

1/14/19 - 2/13/19



**READ**  
for Ronald  
McDonald House

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>14 January</p> <p>Today marks the first day of Read for Ronald McDonald House! Find a good book and start reading!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>15</p> <p>Today is Learn Your Name in Morse Code Day. Read about Morse Code and learn how to spell your name in code!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>16</p> <p>Celebrate your school today! What is your school mascot? Get into the school spirit and read about your mascot.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>17</p> <p>Playing outside is fun! Read about your favorite outdoor game then go outside and give it a try!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>18</p> <p>Monkeys are interesting. Read about monkeys today and draw a picture of a monkey.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>19</p> <p>Winter is a beautiful season. Read today about your favorite winter activity.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>
<p>20</p> <p>Today is Penguin Awareness Day. Read about this amazing bird today!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>21</p> <p>What is your favorite food? Read about where it grows or when the dish was first created.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>22</p> <p>Sports are fun to watch and to play. Read about a sport you would like to try.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>23</p> <p>It feels so good to laugh! Read a book of jokes today and share your favorites with a friend.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>24</p> <p>Board games can be fun! Read the directions to a new game today and play with a friend.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>25</p> <p>Snow is beautiful! Read a story set during the winter today.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>26</p> <p>It is important to help others! Read a favorite book today and know you are making a difference for our RMH families!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>
<p>27</p> <p>It's fun to read lots of different types of things. Read some of your favorite poems today and then write one of your own!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>28</p> <p>What is your favorite type of place to be? The mountains, the ocean? Read about where you would like to visit today.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>29</p> <p>Reading a variety of books can be interesting. Choose a book today that is different from what you normally read.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>30</p> <p>Cooking is fun! Find a recipe for a treat you like and make a special snack!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>31</p> <p>Pets can be the best friends! Read about your favorite type of animal today.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>1 February</p> <p>It's fun to sing! Look up your favorite song lyrics today and sing along to your favorite song!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>2</p> <p>Today is Groundhog Day. Read about Groundhog Day traditions and groundhogs today!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>
<p>3</p> <p>It's fun to share the stories you enjoy. Read a favorite story to someone else today!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>4</p> <p>It is amazing to watch birds fly. Read a story about your favorite bird.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>5</p> <p>Comic books are fun to read. Read your favorite comic book and then create your own amazing comic book here.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>6</p> <p>Reading to a favorite friend can be fun! Find your pet or favorite stuffed animal and read it a story you love.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>7</p> <p>Tongue Twisters can be fun! Find some tongue twisters to read and read each 5 times quickly!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>8</p> <p>Have a book adventure today! Grab a book, explore your house to find a fun, new place to read!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>9</p> <p>It's amazing to think of all the life in our oceans! Read about a sea creature that interests you.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>
<p>10</p> <p>It can be fun to watch the clouds in the sky. Read today about the different types of clouds.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>11</p> <p>Ask your dad or mom what his/her favorite book was when he/she was your age and give it a try.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>12</p> <p>Our planet is amazing! Read about planet Earth and how it spins today.</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>13</p> <p>Today is your last Read for Ronald McDonald House Day! Find a new book, and keep up the great job reading!</p> <p>TOTAL Minutes READ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES Keeping families close</p>		

Dear Parent and/or Guardian:

The Albany Ronald McDonald House is delighted to have your child's school as a participant in the Read for Ronald McDonald House Program. The program is a reading based community service project that benefits your child and school, as well as the families of the Albany Ronald McDonald House. By combining reading with community service, the program enables students to take an active role in helping other children, while also enjoying the benefits of increasing their reading efforts.

This student-driven program supports the services that the Ronald McDonald House provides for families of seriously ill children while they receive treatment at local hospitals. We offer a supportive home environment including secure guest rooms, home cooked meals, transportation to the hospital, children's play areas, and a host of other services designed to allow families to focus on their child's health during their stay with us. Families are able to find comfort and support at the House at a critical time in their lives. We would love for you to join us and participate in our Read for Ronald McDonald House Program, to see the amazing difference we can make in the lives of these very deserving families.

While your child is helping our families by reading, he or she will also be helping to improve his or her reading comprehension, grammar, and critical thinking skills, and hopefully developing a love of reading that will last long after the Read for Ronald McDonald House Program is over. Because our program focuses on the number of minutes read and not the number of books or pages, your child can focus on understanding what he or she reads. Best of all, you can participate, too! By giving your child praise, support, and time reading together, you will set goals for both achievement and caring that will last a lifetime. You will see your child grow from this experience.

The Read for Ronald McDonald House Program extends a warm invitation to you and your child. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 518-438-2655 or at ndamato@rmhcofalbany.org. You can also learn more about the Albany Ronald McDonald House by visiting [www.rmhcofalbany.org](http://www.rmhcofalbany.org). We thank you for considering this worthwhile program and look forward to your child's participation.

Sincerely,

Nancy Damato

Program Coordinator - Read for Ronald McDonald House Program



### About the Program

The Read for Ronald McDonald House Program is a reading based community service project that raises funds to support the Albany Ronald McDonald House through partnerships with local elementary and middle schools. In addition to helping the children and families of the House, the program:

\*Promotes the value of community service   \*Encourages students to read   \*Gives students first hand experience with the difference they can make in the lives of others

### Program Details

#### JANUARY

- A special assembly or video presentation is offered to get students excited about reading for a good cause.
- Students seek out family and friends to sponsor their reading for the month with pledges of either a flat amount for all reading accomplished during the month, or any amount of money they decide per minute read during the month.

#### JANUARY/FEBRUARY

- On **January 14th**, students start reading and recording their reading minutes. Students will **read from January 14th through February 13th**.
- Students keep a record of their minutes read on their reading calendar. Minutes when others read to students count too, so put them on the calendar also!
- Students **turn in their pledge packets with all collected money by** the deadline set by the school - **February 26th**. A Read for Ronald McDonald House representative will coordinate gathering all donations from the school.

#### MARCH

- All student participants receive a personalized participation certificate.
- Students who raise at least \$100 will receive a Read for Ronald McDonald House blinking ball.

#### MAY

- Two student representatives from each school will attend the Awards for Excellence Celebration – an evening of food and fun hosted at the Albany Ronald McDonald House.
- All participating schools receive a personalized thank you letter.
- The schools that raise the most funds and that have the highest level of participation will receive special student assemblies.

### 2018-2019 Program Prizes!

The following prizes are available for 2018-2019 Read for Ronald McDonald House participating students and schools:

**Read for Ronald McDonald House blinking ball** - awarded to every student who earns \$100 or more in donations.

**ViaPort Aquarium** - one free child with adult paid admission ticket for each student who reads and earns donation for RMH, 4 general admission tickets for each school.

**One Hour Jump Coupon, Flight Trampoline Park** - 1 free one hour jump coupon will be awarded to each participating school

**Child basketball/football tickets, University at Albany - SUNY** - 5 children's admission tickets to SUNY Albany basketball and football games will be provided to each school, child admission free with paid adult admission

**Tri-City Valley Cats** - three 4 packs of tickets to the Valley Cats games will be donated to each school

**Lucky Strike Social** - 1 gift certificate to each participating school good for \$25 towards bowling and shoes

**Prizes for the 5 top earning schools and for the school with the highest amount of student participation:**

**Grand Prize Bag** - the top 5 schools earning the most in donations and the school with the highest amount of participation will each receive a prize bag which will include **2 Six Flags Great Escape Amusement Park season passes, a 4 pack of basketball tickets and a 4 pack of football tickets - University at Albany- SUNY, two 4 packs of tickets to a Tri-City Valley Cats game, 4 general admission tickets - ViaPort Aquarium** and select memorabilia from the Ronald McDonald House.

**Grand Prizes for the school earning the most in donations:**

**One Hour Facility Rental (for up to 150 students) - Flight Trampoline Park** - Flight Trampoline Park will be reserved for one hour for an exclusive jump session for up to 150 students from the winning school.

**\$150 in Gift Certificates - Dave and Busters** - Dave and Busters will provide a \$150 in certificates good towards food, non-alcoholic beverages or Power Cards.

**Grand Prize for the school with the highest level of participation:**

**100 Grandstand tickets to a 2019 Valley Cats game** - The Tri-City Valley Cats will provide 100 Grandstand tickets to the winning school. The school and students will be recognized at the game.

**Drawing for 5 Kindle Fire Tablets** - Students who read and earn donations will be entered into a raffle to win one of 5 Kindle Tablets - drawing occurs in May

Our heartfelt thanks to our generous sponsors for providing these wonderful prizes!