



POCOPSON READ-A-THON 2022



Book: *Song for a Whale* by Lynne Kelly
Where: Pocopson Elementary School
When: Friday, February 4th, 2022 (3rd Grade) &
Saturday, February 5th, 2022 (4th Grade)
Boarding: 5:45 PM both nights

Our 3rd and 4th grade friends are invited to join us for Pocopson's 2022 Read-a-Thon! We will work together to hunt for Blue-55, the loneliest whale, to help him connect and to communicate with others. This journey through the silent world of Iris, a deaf 12-year-old girl, and her developing bond with Blue-55, whose off-pitch song is unrecognizable to other whales, mixes science, nature, and ways of making a difference to others in our lives. The Read-a-Thon is designed to re-create the world of *Song for a Whale* and let your child engulf his or herself in it. Your child will understand and enjoy the activities much more if they are familiar with the settings and events in the book. Therefore, please have your child finish reading *Song for a Whale* before your Read-a-Thon date (see above), so they can get the most out of this event. During this amazing evening, students will participate in a variety of fun activities including crafts, games, and storytelling centered around this wonderful, warm, and inspiring book.

In addition to the fun planned during the weekend of February 4th, we are in the process of creating an exciting way to read along with members of our Pocopson community! We are working with our staff, teachers, and families to create chapter videos for students to read along to! We hope to have them all up and running within the next few weeks. Find that and more resources at www.mypespto.com/read-a-thon (password: **WhaleSong21**) or by scanning the Boarding Pass! We hope that you will use the bingo card, which is found on the back of your child's Boarding Pass, to encourage progress in reading the book. The boarding pass and this heart-warming book were given to all 3rd and 4th students on Friday, November 19th.

If you would like your child to attend this event, please choose one of the following forms (they are the same) and send it into school or complete it online by **Friday, December 10th, 2021**:

- **PAPER-** Complete the attached form for each child and send in a check for \$20* (made payable to PES PTO) to the main office. Please address your envelope to *Pocopson Read-a-Thon 2022*. **OR**
- **ONLINE-** Complete the online form at <https://forms.gle/7ZNZrVD6Q7wkt8rY9> and then submit payment on the Square link provided on that online form.

Constantly fluctuating COVID restrictions mean that further details about food, masking requirements, and social distancing will be circulated closer to the February dates, along with more detailed instructions for the event. We will need many volunteers to make *Song for a Whale* come alive for our 3rd and 4th graders, so please check out the website above or scan your boarding pass to grab a volunteer slot or two. If you have any questions at all, please contact any of the 2022 Read-a-Thon chairs listed below.

Happy Reading!

Lucy Barber (parent of Matilda, 3rd Grade) Barberfamilydownunder@hotmail.co.uk

Jamie Pallas (parent of Zoey Parker, 4th Grade) Jamie_a_pallas@hotmail.com

Kim Craskey (parent of Amelia Ortlieb, 3rd Grade) Kcraskey@gmail.com

**The \$20 fee will help to pay for the books, decor, vendor fees, and refreshments, if applicable. If you would like to attend, but cannot cover the cost at this moment, simply send us a quick note at pespto@ucfsd.net and we will waive the cost and keep that information completely confidential.*