



# DEMAREST PTO NEWSLETTER



Week of January 20, 2025

## UPCOMING CALENDAR



- Mon 1/20 Martin Luther King Jr Day – Schools Closed
- Mon 1/20 Read-a-Thon Starts
- Tue 1/21 COW & BOE Meeting, CRS, 7pm
- Fri 1/24 Spirit Friday
- Fri 1/31 Lunar New Year Celebration
- Fri 1/31 Spirit Friday



- Sun 2/2 Read-a-Thon Ends
- Fri 2/7 Spirit Friday
- Tue 2/11 COW & BOE Meeting, CRS, 7pm
- Thu 2/13 Read-a-Thon Celebration
- Fri 2/14 Spirit Friday
- Fri 2/14 Valentine’s Day Class Party
- Fri 2/14 DMS Hot Chocolate Party
- Mon 2/17 – Fri 2/21 Mid-Winter Recess – Schools Closed
- Fri 2/28 Spirit Friday

## NOTEWORTHY



Plenty of info available on the Read-A-Thon on Membership Toolkit @ [demarestpto.org](http://demarestpto.org)



We encourage everyone to join the **Demarest PTO!** New members can purchase membership at [demarestpto.membershiptoolkit.com](http://demarestpto.membershiptoolkit.com).



Stay up to date by visiting our website at [www.demarestpto.org](http://www.demarestpto.org). Like us on **Facebook** at Demarest PTO and follow us on **Instagram** at demarestpto.

*Demarest Parent Teacher Organization  
A Tradition of Serving Demarest Schools for Over 80 Years*

## PRESIDENTS’ CORNER

**Welcome back** from the long weekend, **Demarest Families!** This week may be short, but the PTO’s action list is stacked higher than a pile of books at story time—so make sure to read through!

Speaking of reading... WOW! Last week’s **Read-A-Thon kickoff assembly** was nothing short of **super-powered!** From Mr. Mazzini and the CRS & LLE staff’s heroic performance to the electrifying debut of our very own **Demarest Wildcat Mascot**, the students were absolutely buzzing. The assembly also unveiled our exciting lineup of **Read-A-Thon prizes!**

**CRS & LLE Read-A-Thon Dates: 1/20 to 2/2.** Don’t forget—all reading at home counts! Whether it’s bedtime stories, sibling story hours, diving into a favorite novel, flipping through comics, or even following a recipe in the kitchen – it all adds up. Prizes, surprises, and plenty of fun await our readers! **Check out the flyer below for this week’s exciting Read-A-Thon events.**

**Mark your calendars—Demarest 5K** is coming!

**When:** Sunday, 5/18

**Registration opens:** Saturday, 2/1

Starting in early April, your kids can train for the 5K with none other than Mr. Mazzini and Mr. Regan—how cool is that? Whether they’re sprinters, joggers, or walkers, it’s bound to be an unforgettable day. Be sure to register early and check the flyer below for all the details!

**Save the Date—Spring Gala**

**When:** Friday, 3/14

Exciting sponsorship opportunities, cool ways to get involved, and an evening to remember await! Find more details in the flyer below, and visit Membership Toolkit for more information.

Here’s to another action-packed week!

Batool & Lauren

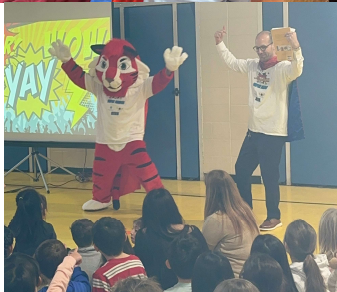
**Demarest PTO Co-Presidents**

[president@demarestpto.org](mailto:president@demarestpto.org)

## DEMAREST PTO NEWS



CRS & LLE students had a blast with their Demarest Superheroes, learning all about unleashing their superpower to READ!



Meet our very own Demarest Wildcat! Students were thrilled to learn that THEY get to vote on a name for our Wildcat during the READ-A-THON!



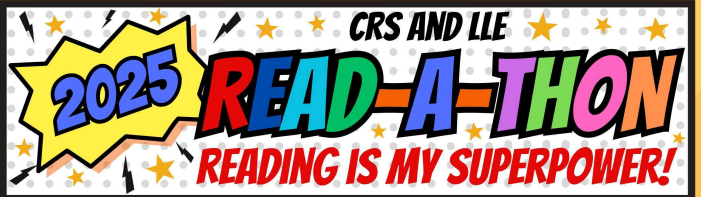
### Volunteers needed!

The date for **International Heritage Day 2025** is **Saturday, 3/8** at **Luther Lee Emerson School**. If you are interested in representing a country or volunteering to help a country, please let us know by emailing:

[heritageday@demarestpto.org](mailto:heritageday@demarestpto.org).

JANUARY  
20,  
2025

STUDENT EDITION #1



**CALLING ALL DEMAREST SUPER READERS!  
YOUR MISSION STARTS NOW!**

**The Read-A-Thon begins  
on Monday, January 20!**

**Unleash your **READING**  
superpower and  
read, read, read!**

**DON'T FORGET!**

**BRING YOUR YELLOW STAR TICKET  
TO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY,  
JANUARY 21 TO EXCHANGE FOR A  
PARTICIPATION PRIZE!**

Check the [Key Dates](#) page  
of your Parent and Student  
Kit to make sure you don't  
miss any of the fun!

**LOST A TICKET?**  
JUST WRITE YOUR NAME  
AND TICKET COLOR ON A  
PIECE OF PAPER AND HAND  
IT IN!

**Questions? Email  
[readathon@demarestpto.org](mailto:readathon@demarestpto.org)**

**IMPORTANT NOTE ON TICKETS**

While we note specific dates to hand in  
your YELLOW and BLUE tickets, you can  
turn them in at any time during the  
Read-A-Thon to exchange for a prize!

SEND THIS LINK TO FRIENDS AND  
FAMILY TO SPREAD THE WORD  
ABOUT THE READ-A-THON!  
[WWW.DEMARESTPTO.MEMBERSHIP  
TOOLKIT.COM/READATHON](http://WWW.DEMARESTPTO.MEMBERSHIP<br/>TOOLKIT.COM/READATHON)

**LOST YOUR PACKET?**  
CHECK OUT  
[WWW.DEMARESTPTO.ORG](http://WWW.DEMARESTPTO.ORG)  
FOR A DIGITAL COPY!



**MONDAY, JANUARY 20:**

START OF READ-A-THON

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 21:**

PARTICIPATING STUDENTS BRING IN YELLOW TICKETS AND SELECT PARTICIPATION PRIZES

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 23:**

READING BUILDS CONNECTION DAY: NO HOMEWORK TODAY!

READ WITH YOUR STUDENTS AT HOME

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24**

READING IS SURPRISING DAY: STUDENTS STOP, DROP, AND READ THROUGHOUT THE DAY!

STUDENTS WHO HAVE FOUND PLEDGES BRING IN BLUE TICKETS AND SELECT PLEDGE PRIZES

**MONDAY, JANUARY 27**

READING IS RELAXING DAY: STUDENTS WEAR PAJAMAS TO SCHOOL!

STUDENTS WHO HAVE REACHED THEIR GOAL EVERY DAY TO THIS HALFWAY POINT BRING IN  
PINK TICKETS AND SELECT HALFWAY PRIZES

**Missed a date to  
hand in tickets?  
NO PROBLEM!  
Hand them in at any  
point to exchange  
for a prize!**

**Questions? Email [readathon@demarestpto.org](mailto:readathon@demarestpto.org)**



## DEMAREST PTO NEWS – Cont'd

**40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
**Demarest 5k**  
 run for your health

**DEMAREST 5K & PRINCIPALS CHALLENGE**  
**COMING THIS SPRING!**

Principals Challenge dates/times available on website  
<https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Demarest/Demarest5K>

**SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025**

Registration opens February 1, 2025  
 Register early before price increases

Questions?  
 Email [Demarest5k@demarestpto.org](mailto:Demarest5k@demarestpto.org)

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Demarest/Demarest5K>

DEMAREST PTO  
 2025  
**SPRING GALA**  
 ALPINE COUNTRY CLUB

OUR RAFFLE & AUCTION HELP RAISE THE MOST MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOLS

**HELP US RAISE FUNDS WITH GREAT DONATIONS!**

CONSIDER DONATING...

GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR STORES | PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | DINING | TRAVEL EXPERIENCES | LUXURY RETAIL GOODS | TICKETS TO MUSIC | SPORTING EVENTS | EXPERIENCES

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO CONTRIBUTE  
 EMAIL:  
[SPRINGFUNDRAISER@DEMARESTPTO.ORG](mailto:SPRINGFUNDRAISER@DEMARESTPTO.ORG)

For more information on how to contribute email [springfundraiser@demarestpto.org](mailto:springfundraiser@demarestpto.org)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Demarest Compost

Wednesday, January 22, 6:30 pm

## Demarest Public Library

Community Composting is coming to Demarest! Join the Demarest Environmental Commission for an info session with Neighborhood Compost to learn how Demarest families can participate in turning their food waste into compost soil, and its positive environmental impacts.

- ✓ Food scraps: uncooked vegetables and fruits, meat
- ✓ teabags, tea leaves, and coffee grounds
- ✗ plastic, plants, coated paper

**REGISTER NOW**

**FRIENDS OF THE DEMAREST FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**wants you to become a Friend!**

**Our library needs Friends!**

Memberships and donations allow us to purchase equipment, programs, and services NOT covered by the library's share of the town budget.

**What have the Friends done?**

- Established in 2023, in our first year we:
- Donated a 70" TV for the new community room
- Purchased a one-year membership for town residents to access the Fiero Code learn-to-code program
- Provided a Cricut cutting machine for the Children's Room
- Sponsored the holiday party in the Children's Room
- Funded the ice cream truck for the Summer Reading Program
- Supported the henna station at our Diwali event
- Hosted author Tracey Baptiste for a special library visit
- Organized a book donation drive to help residents sustainably discard unwanted books
- Led crafts and games for children at Demarest Day and Oktoberfest

**Join us!**

[www.demarestlibrary.org/friends](http://www.demarestlibrary.org/friends)  
 @friendsdemarestlibrary

Friends of the Demarest Free Public Library is a 501 (3) (c) non profit organization  
 All contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law