

News release



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Rampant reading at View Ridge on Monday

Students to indulge in spontaneous bouts of reading – and the magic of the written word

Dr. Seuss would be so proud!

Monday, March 2, is [National Read Across America Day](#), or what is often better known as *Dr. Seuss Day*, because it is the birthday of the beloved author of *Green Eggs and Ham* among other rhythmic delights that tickle the tongues of young and old.

View Ridge Elementary students are doing the good doctor well with a celebration that begins at 10:15 a.m. with the favorite and traditional *Stop, Drop and Read* in the school hallways. Students, teachers, office staff and custodians grab their favorite books and spend 15 minutes in collective reading.

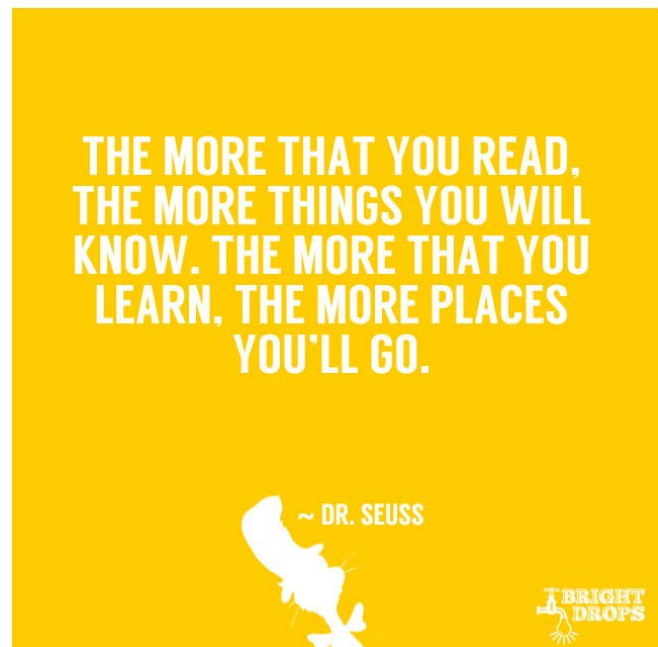
The day's school assemblies at 1:30 and again at 2:30 p.m. crackle with the magic of reading. Magician Jeff Evans shows how reading helps solve the puzzling Rubik's Cube, how there are "magic numbers" in the library Dewey Decimal system and why a library card is a magic wand.

Monday evening is dedicated to the PTA's annual *Book Exchange*. Students who have donated books to the exchange cache that week come that evening to get new books to take home.

And there is more evening reading entertainment! View Ridge staff will entertain the roving *Book Exchange* audiences by reading some of their favorite stories.

You can see the red and white hat bobbing its appreciation, can't you?

(more)





Just who was “Dr. Seuss?”

According to www.scholastic.com, the man destined to be a treasured children’s book author (secretly read and appreciated by adoring adults too!), was born as Theodor Geisel on March 2, 1904. He grew up in Springfield, Massachusetts and went to school at Dartmouth College and Oxford University. He became a cartoonist, and his depictions of [Quick, Henry, the Flit!](#) were popular.

He wrote his first children’s book, *And To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street*, in 1937. Many would say, “The world of children’s literature was changed forever!” He magically combined enthralling stories with goofily outrageous illustrations and sound combinations that enticed children to love reading.

He won a Pulitzer Prize in 1984 and three Academy Awards. He wrote and illustrated 44 children’s books. Some of those are available in audio form and have been featured on TV.

Even today, 25 years after his death in 1991, his books are the best-selling children’s books in the world, according to Scholastic.

His quirky sense of humor is evident, of course, in his books. He also tweaked his name a bit to write books under the name *Theo LeSieg*, which is his last name, Geisel, spelled backwards. These he wrote, but did not illustrate.

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