

🍃 !: BLISTERS FOR BOOKS !: 🍃

Friday, September 25, 2026

LETTER TO PARENTS

Dear Parents,

It's **BLISTERS FOR BOOKS** time!

WHAT IS BLISTERS? Blisters for Books is **an annual school-library collaborative fundraising “fun run”** on the Lyme Common to raise money for the Converse Free Library’s PreK-Grade 8 collection, which is shared with the Lyme School. Essentially, school-aged children are asked to challenge themselves to collect sponsors and then run or walk around the Common with their schoolmates. The more laps they complete, the more money they raise for the library! It’s a time-honored tradition that combines community-building, fitness, and literacy in one fall-themed package.

As it has been 44 years since Blisters began, we are now well into the 2nd generation of Lyme participants. Ask around and you’re sure to find a parent who grew up in Lyme and collected pledges just like your child will be doing this year! Ask them what Blisters means to them.

This year’s run will take place on Friday, September 25, from 8:30 to 1:50 p.m.

🍃 HOW DOES BLISTERS WORK?

1. Students solicit pledges for monetary donations from their friends, families, and neighbors prior to the event. (We encourage you to model what this “ask” might sound like, especially if your child is hesitant about what to say to a grandparent or neighbor, along with basic personal safety practices.)
2. They return their sponsor form (attached here) to the school before the event.
3. On the day of the event, students complete as many laps around the Common as they can, within a time limit set by Ms. Wetterhahn and Ms. Damren.
4. That information (number of laps) is entered on each student’s sponsor form.
5. Students will be given their sponsor forms back by their teachers on Tuesday, September 29

🍃 THEN WHAT HAPPENS?

1. Within a couple of weeks following the Blisters run, students collect their pledged funds and return them to school, with their pledge form.
2. Later in the year the library will announce the total amount of funds raised by our intrepid students. We will invite students to celebrate their collective achievement.
3. The money will be utilized by the Library for the purchase of children’s books and materials throughout the following 12 months.

This is a special opportunity for school children to contribute their energy to the growth of their community's resources, and we hope you will encourage them to participate to the best of their abilities. Everyone is welcome to participate at the pace that suits them.

WHO IS SUPERVISING THIS EVENT?

1. **Kati Miller, Lyme School Nurse** will be on the Common, along with teachers for each class.
2. **Lisa Damren, Physical Education teacher**, will supervise and track the lap-running.
3. **Becky Wetterhahn, Library Media Specialist** (school librarian), and **library staff** will be present throughout the morning to help.
4. **Parent volunteers** play a big part in the day (see below)!

Please let us know via **Sign Up Genius by September 23** if you can provide a snack for the kids to enjoy after their run. See specifics at this link or QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/en892kz8>



AN EASY BLISTERS CHECKLIST

- ☐ **September 8:** Students receive packets from teachers, including sponsor forms
- ☐ Students (with grown-up guidance) **solicit pledges** and record them on the sponsor forms
- ☐ **Wednesday, September 23** or before: Students return completed sponsor forms to classroom
- ☐ **Friday, September 25:** Blisters for Books day. Ms. D and Ms. Wetterhahn use sponsor forms to record the students' completed laps around the Common
- ☐ **September 28:** In classrooms, students receive their forms back, with number of laps added
- ☐ **September 28—October 13:** Students calculate and collect pledges/donations (**TIP:** attach an envelope to the sponsor form)
- ☐ **October 13** or earlier: Students return sponsor forms *with collected funds* to teachers or school office



MORE QUESTIONS? Please feel free to get in touch with me anytime.

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