



NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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St. Luke's and Barnes & Noble Team Up For Second Annual Benefit Book Fair

BOISE – Looking for a good book to read? Then mark your calendars for June 6 to attend the Second Annual Reading is Good Medicine book fair.

With the support of Barnes & Noble, St. Luke's Children's Hospital is holding the book fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 1315 N. Milwaukee St. in Boise.

Barnes & Noble will be donating a percentage of all sales that day to St. Luke's Children's Hospital School. The event is part of an ongoing effort to build a library for children being treated at the hospital.

A full slate of events is planned including activity booths for children, raffles for prizes and a chance to meet the dogs in St. Luke's Pet Therapy program.

St. Luke's Children's Hospital mascot Maxwell Moose will be at the fair and he'll be joined by Winnie the Pooh. Adding to the fun will be the ongoing antics of St. Luke's volunteer clowns.

Last year's inaugural event raised more than \$4,500 for the school. Barnes & Noble customers also bought more than 200 books last year that they donated to the School.

"We had an incredible turnout and the money raised and books donated have gone a long way toward helping children undergoing treatment at the hospital," said Hayley Welch, the teacher at St. Luke's Children's Hospital School. "The books provide an important distraction for children, who are often facing some of the biggest challenges in their lives."

It was Welch who came up with the idea for the book fair after realizing the hospital didn't have an adequate supply of books to meet the needs of the children.

Every year Welch teaches about 125 kids at the hospital school, and books are an important part of the curriculum. To help with infection prevention all the books at the school need to be new and they have to be replaced often.

Keeping a fresh supply of books is a challenge for the school, which is funded entirely through donations from the community.

About St. Luke's Children's Hospital

St. Luke's Children's Hospital, located at St. Luke's Boise Medical Center, is a hospital within a hospital—with a professional staff and services to care for the special needs of children. The hospital's unique services include a 24-hour emergency center designed and staffed just for kids, intensive care units for newborns and children, child life specialists to help young patients adjust to the hospital and an outpatient specialty center to provide multidisciplinary services to children with special needs.