



## Intent

Our intention is that all children will develop a love of reading through being able to access a wide range of engaging and relevant texts. We strive to improve the reading ability of all children, by ensuring that they are motivated to read and are reading books that are accessible, yet challenging. Accelerated Reader will be used alongside wave 1 teaching of the reading objectives to ensure that children make progress in their reading.

## Implementation

After a term's trial, Accelerated Reader (AR) was introduced across KS2 in September 2017. A Reading morning was held to introduce it to parents. AR is a progress-monitoring system, which we use to support the delivery of our reading curriculum through supporting guided-independent reading practice. It allows teachers to track and monitor what and how often children are reading, as well as how well they have understood what they have read. Reading is celebrated in each classroom and in weekly whole school assemblies. In September 2019, this was developed further with money invested into new books and re-developing the school library, which was unveiled at a Reading morning for parents.

The system is made up of two parts: The Star reading test and Accelerated Reading Quizzes.

- ❖ A Star reading test is taken when a child enters year 3, then repeated in the Autumn, Spring, and Summer term. These test dates can be adjusted as required. The result of this test provides the teacher with a wealth of information about each child's progress through a range of reports. Including providing planning information which indicates the reading objectives the child is achieving, and which objectives to focus on in order to move their learning forward. This information is being used to support reading interventions across KS2. It also provides each child with an individual ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) indicating a range of books in which the vocabulary is accessible, yet challenging; allowing the child to choose a 'normal' book, not limited by book bands, that they can access and experience success in reading.
- ❖ Accelerated Reader quizzes are taken after a child completes a book. These consist of 5, 10 or 20 questions testing the child's understanding. The child can see their % score immediately, and track their own progress on their profile. Class teachers monitor weekly the class performance on quizzes, noticing those who haven't passed a quiz and supporting them with future quizzes through 1:1 reading, reading the quiz questions aloud or discussing the book before quizzing.

Using AR data, reading is celebrated across the school in many ways:

- ❖ Children aim to score 80% or more on each quiz. If this is achieved, their name is displayed in the classroom.
- ❖ Each book also has a value of points assigned to it. If they pass the quiz, the percentage score achieved gives them the same percentage of the points. Each child has a personalised points targets based on their ZPD. Each class track children's progress towards their targets on a class display. This display allows all abilities of children to experience success as it is the percentage of the target that is tracked, not the point value itself.
- ❖ The points earned by each child, also contribute to the class total. Each week, in a whole school assembly, a trophy is awarded to the year 3/4 class, and the year 5/6 class, with the most points.
- ❖ Each book also has a word total. When a child becomes a word millionaire or a word multi-millionaire this is celebrated in a whole school assembly with the presentation of certificates.

## Impact

A positive reading ethos has been established across the school, with positive comments from pupils and parents indicating increased motivation and enjoyment. One parent commented that 'They've been struggling to find books that their daughter would like to read / catch her interest, but since the library has redeveloped she has been hooked! Working her way through several series, and finding her love of reading again.' They also said, 'how effective the ZPD/AR has been in motivating their children to read frequently.'

Children are enthused by having a ZPD, as it guides them to choose a book which isn't too easy, or too hard. This enthusiasm has been heavily boosted by the £20,000 invested in high quality texts for the new library. The school's investment in 20 new ipads for LKS2 and UKS2, has had an impact on the amount of quizzes that can be taken, ensuring children can take a quiz soon after completing their book.

Teachers have reported how useful the system is in allowing them to track the reading ability of children in their class. The data provided by the system, helps teachers to plan reading interventions, and triangulate data in order to track progress.

Learning walks have shown a reading culture in which children enjoy independent reading.