

October 1<sup>st</sup> 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted that the first phase of Accelerated Reader (our new reading system) is now ready to launch from year 2 to year 6. All of our reading books have been re-labelled and hopefully many of you will have shared these with your child. You may also have seen some fantastic new books which have been funded by our very generous PTFA.

Below is some key information that will help you understand how Accelerated Reader is organised in school.

### What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader is a computer program that helps teachers to monitor and manage children's independent reading practice. Each child will choose a book at his/her own level and read it at their own pace.

### What is STAR Reading?

You may have heard your child mention that they have taken a Star Reading Test. STAR reading is used to determine your child's reading level. It is a computer-based reading assessment program that uses computer-adaptive technology to adjust the level of the test to your child's ability. This means that if your child's response is correct, the difficulty level is increased. Conversely, if your child cannot answer a question, or answers incorrectly, the difficulty level is reduced. The STAR tests uses multiple choice questions, takes approximately 20 minutes to complete and is taken once every term.

### Why are reading books labelled with a number?

Reading books are now levelled with a coloured sticker and code. This indicates the book's reading level and difficulty of the text. Books are chosen by your child, in conversation with their teacher or class TA, based on their individual ZPD range determined by STAR reading assessments.

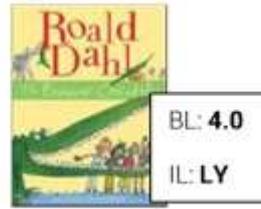
### What is a ZPD code?

ZPD (zone of proximal development) is the range of books that will challenge your child without causing frustration or loss of motivation. Every time your child takes a STAR reading test, they will be given a ZPD reading range. This has been explained to the children and they have been very excited to see which books they can access.

### What is Interest Level?

The interest level indicates for which age group a book is appropriate based on content and themes. These are recommendations only and teacher judgment will also be used when helping a child select an appropriate book.

Interest Level	Age
LY—Lower Years	5 - 8
MY—Middle Years	9 - 13
UY—Upper Years	14+



The books shown both have a ZPD code of 4.0. However the content level of each book is very different. Therefore Noughts and Crosses is suitable for pupils in Upper Years whilst The Enormous Crocodile is suitable for children in Lower Years.

### What is a STAR quiz?

When a book is finished, each pupil takes a short quiz on an ipad at school and passing the quiz is an indication that your child has understood what has been read. When your child finishes a quiz, they are allocated points which reflects how well they did in the test. These quizzes help teachers to monitor children's comprehension and understanding of the book they have read.

### MYON

Over the next few weeks, your child will be introduced to MYON which is a digital library containing over a thousand books that can be accessed at home. This is connected to Accelerated Reader and is a resource designed to encourage your child to enjoy and improve their reading.

If you are interested in finding out a book level on Accelerated Reader, please visit <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/> and use quick search to see if a book has an AR quiz.

If you have any queries, please contact me or your child's class teacher via the school office. More information about Accelerated Reader will also be available on the school website soon.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Cartledge