

November 2014

5, 4, 3, 2, 1 WE HAVE LIFT OFF!

LAUNCH OF ACCELERATED READER PROGRAMME AT ST. BENEDICT'S

We are delighted to announce that after months of planning and preparing, we have launched the 'Accelerated Reader' programme at St. Benedict's. The scheme has been hugely successful in schools around the world and is aimed at inspiring children to read and rewarding them for success.

How the system works:

Each child takes an initial 'Star Test' and is given a level (see ZPD section below). They may then select books from that level. When they finish a book, they must take an on-line 'quiz'. This can only be done at school. If they have a good comprehension of the text they should score well (quizzes may be out of 3, 5, 10 or 20). They can then log-in to their own page on the 'Renaissance' website and check their progress, as well as monitoring their own 'library' - books they have read so far. To reach the website, go to <https://Ukhosted47.renlearn.co.uk/1895248> then your child will need to enter their user name and password (if they forget, look at the sticker inside their reading record).

ZPD

Whenever they do a Star Test, your child will establish their 'Zone of Proximal Development' (ZPD). This is a range (e.g. 3.2 - 5.3) within which they may select books. Within classes, we will set a more specific range, starting at the lower end (e.g. 3.2 - 3.7). If your child gets 100% in two consecutive quizzes, their ZPD will be increased by 0.2 (e.g. 3.4 - 3.9). A record of your child's ZPD can be found in the back of their reading log.

How you can help:

Ask your child what book they have and encourage them to read frequently (aim for at least ten minutes per night). Allocate a time/place for them to read and ask them questions about the story. Ensure you sign their reading record so that we can monitor their reading habits. Find time to log-on to the website and ask them to talk you through their recent progress.

What do points make...?:

Remind your child of the different ways they can earn rewards/prizes. Our most recent challenge was 'which class could earn the most Book Level points'? The winning class, 6SR, get to come to school in mufti for a day. The one extra book your child reads could make the difference! There are also personal rewards on offer for the following:

1. **The 'Millionaires' Club'**. If your child reads a million words, they will receive a certificate in assembly and get to select a book from our 'box of books'!
2. **The '100 Club'**. If your child reaches 100 points through reading lots of books and answering AR quizzes correctly, they will receive a certificate and get to select a book from our 'box of books'!
3. **Star Pointers**. If your child makes one whole point progress between star tests, they will receive a certificate in assembly and get to select a book from our 'box of books'!

Most importantly, I would like to see every child enjoying their reading and recommending books to others. Hopefully, the school laptops will be buzzing with activity as the school gets quizzing!

If you have any questions, please ask Mr Ranger or your child's class teacher/TA.