



Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Changes to using Accelerated Reader (AR) in school

We wanted to share with you some changes to how we will be teaching reading this year and, in particular, how we use Accelerated Reader (AR) to support with this.

Research shows that reading for pleasure is the single most important factor in a child’s future successes and attainment. At Warden House, as we are sure you are aware, we are fully committed to this and already provide a range of strategies to support this. As we head into the new school year, we will be implementing a range of additional strategies in school in order to further inspire our children’s love for reading as much as possible. These include:

- Dedicated reading time as a class.
- “Book Club” sessions once a week in class where children review and discuss the books that they are reading.
- Additional reading lessons to allow for far greater opportunities for children to talk about and review texts that they are studying.

We will also be launching the following initiatives in order to recognise and celebrate reading:

- Termly whole-class reading awards for the class that has made best progress and reads the most at home
- Weekly ‘Star Reading’ certificate – the reason can be chosen by the class teacher each week. It may range from most improved, best expression, best book review or most books read.

To complement this, we will be introducing the following changes to how we use Accelerated Reader (AR) in school.

Change to Accelerated Reader (AR) This Year	
Children will not complete a quiz after each book in school.	Taking a quiz on a book does not promote the love of reading. We wish to move away from a word count or points competition. Children will be invited to complete a book review once they finish a book and have the option of completing the AR test at home, should they wish. There will be a link on our school website for this. This will free up more time in class for teachers to enjoy reading with the children in class.
Children will take a Star Reading test in Terms 2, 4 and 6	Children will take a star reading test to assess their reading level 3 times a year. Teachers will be regularly assessing children’s reading in class also. Children can take additional Star Reading tests should the class teacher wish.

We look forward to continuing to work together to support your child’s love of reading and reading attainment. Should you have any questions, please speak to your child’s class teacher, or contact me and I will be happy to help.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Marcks
 English Leader

