

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you are well and excited that the children are finally back in school full time. **May we please ask that if you have any school reading books currently not being read that you return them as soon as possible so we can see where we are for the new term and what we need to order.**

Now the children are in Key Stage 2 we use a different and more mature reading scheme which allows children more choice and encourages children to read 'real books'. The scheme we use is Accelerated Reader or AR for short. The idea behind Accelerated Reader is that it helps children develop a daily reading habit (20 -30 minutes a day) and learn to choose books they like/enjoy that suit them and their interests.

There is an online assessment the children take four times a year called the Star Reading Test. This assessment gives a good indication of the level of books the children should be reading. The children will be supported by adults so that they do their best in this assessment which they will do in small groups on lap tops or I-pads. The assessment is very sophisticated and the questions get easier or harder based on whether or not the child managed to answer the previous question.

We intend to get all of years three, four and five tested within the first three weeks of term resuming and then to get the information out to you shortly after. Please bear with us, while we test all children and encourage your child to read a book they have at home before they are also given a school book. Please do not worry about this as the children enjoy the online test which adjusts to the ability of the child on the day.

Your child will then be given a range within which they can read for example 2.2- 4.7. The children then pick books within this range and take short 5 or 10 question quizzes on these books in school after they have read the book. These books can be read at home or/and in school. If the children do well on the quiz they will earn points towards their target which fills up their flower (online). Each book has a level and a number of points you may earn from it.

One thing you are likely to notice is that it is levelled in a totally different way to Oxford Reading tree. AR is designed to be used with children aged 7-16 so children will now be on the beginning of this journey and are likely to have ranges starting at 0.5 through 1 and 2 which will seem low compared to the Oxford Level – they are not low just different.

All books have a level and a number of points for example Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is levelled at 4.8 and is worth 5 points and The Gruffalo is levelled at 2.3 and is worth 0.5 points. You can look up any books you have at home on a website AR book finder to see if a book you have at home or a book you are reading is on AR and what level it is at: <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk>

Most popular children's books and authors new and old are on AR and can be found on AR book find so if your child loves Tom Gates, Oliver Jeffers, David Walliams, Julia Donaldson, Enid Blyton or Onjali Rauf they should be able to read and take quizzes on these books

Any questions or queries please message info@oasismarksburyroad.org.

Kindest Regards,

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