

Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

### **Accelerated Reader and Reading Books**

All pupils within the Junior School have now been tested using our new reading program from Renaissance Learning. From this data your child will have been allocated a colour band from which to select their reading book. Pupils in Years 3 and 4 will select Lower Years (LY) books and Years 5 and 6 will select Middle Years (MY) books, from within these colour bands. This ensures that the content is age appropriate; for example, a proficient reader in Year 3 won't be able to access a more mature subject area, and a developing reader in Year 6 child won't be reading a book that is too childlike for them.

Pupils will have three opportunities a week to change their reading books and complete a comprehension quiz, using the Accelerated Reader (AR) program. Due to every child accessing a book within their reading capabilities, all pupils are targeted to achieve a minimum of 85% in the AR test. Each Form Teacher will review your child's data weekly and colour bands will be adjusted accordingly.

In order to motivate the pupils, each form will be competing to achieve the greatest number of 100% quiz results. Each quiz is also allocated points, and once the 85% quiz target has been achieved, the corresponding points will be added to their weekly house credits. The number of words a pupil has read will also be recorded and children that read one million words will enter the Millionaire Club; these children will be invited to attend a special event at the end of the year.

Renaissance Home Connect improves the school-to-home connection by allowing parents, carers and pupils to log in to a website and view the pupil's reading practice and progress towards targets. Access to online results promotes discussion between parents and children which motivates children and can make reading practice even more effective. In addition, parents can specify up to six email addresses to receive automatic updates on their child's reading progress. By the end of the week your child will bring home the personalised details that you will need in order to set up Home Connect.

In addition to the introduction of AR in the Junior School, we are awaiting the imminent delivery of 399 new reading books and three new magazine subscriptions: National Geographic for Kids, The Week Junior Magazine and First News. We are confident that your child will have a thoroughly fulfilling time in our Library.

Alongside this letter I have also included further information that will assist you in understanding how the program works. If you have any queries regarding Accelerated Reader then, in the first instance, please speak with your child's Form Teacher. Following this, please feel free to email me any unanswered questions or queries.

Yours sincerely,



Miss A Trafford  
English Subject Leader  
[atrafford@qegsblackburn.com](mailto:atrafford@qegsblackburn.com)