

1 October 2018

Dear Parent/Carers,

**Re: Accelerated Reader and Novel Study for Year 2 – Year 6**

To ensure we prepare children to meet the high expectations of the National Curriculum we are introducing two new approaches to reading this academic year in Years 2 - 6, Accelerated Reader and Novel Study.

These approaches to reading build on the amazing progress the children make in their early education, learning to read words and spell with Read Write Inc. Accelerated Reader and Novel Study build on the word reading skills the children are secure with and develop their comprehension skills.

**Accelerated Reader – Home reading**

Accelerated Reader will be our Home Reading Scheme. The aim of the approach is to accelerate learning for all children at a level suitable for them. The children have all taken Star Reading tests. These computer based adaptive tests assess their reading ability. As the children answer the questions they will become harder or easier depending on their answers so that we receive an accurate picture of the children's comprehension skills.

Following the test, the children are given a personalised reading range called the ZPD, and this gives the children books that will challenge their comprehension skills appropriately and will give teachers valuable data to support and extend children where appropriate.

When the children have read their book at home they will be able to come into school the following day and complete a comprehension quiz based on the book they have read. We will be challenging the children to achieve a score of 85% or above on the quiz, as this will indicate a good level of comprehension. If the children are achieving less than this then they will be supported to choose books in their lower ZPD range, if they are achieving 100% we will be challenging them to read at the top end or above their ZPD range. Teachers will be encouraging children to take at least one quiz a week. You will be able to track your child's progress with Home Connect. The children will be coming home with login details for Home Connect shortly.

Initially, we anticipate that the children will be excited about quizzing so they may choose books at the lower end of their ZPD range to be able to take quizzes on a daily basis. We do not want to dampen their enthusiasm for reading therefore we will intervene if this continues for too long. Each week this term we will award certificates if quizzes are taken before Thursday. In the following terms we will set competitions to keep children motivated to read, these may include competitions to read 5000 words, points competitions, 100% on quizzes awards.

There are over 27,000 books that the children can quiz on. Unfortunately, our library does not stock all the titles! By using AR Bookfinder you will be able to find books that have quizzes and match your child's ZPD level which means they can choose books from home or local libraries to read as well as from school.



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### **Novel Study – Class reading**

Our in class reading approach is Novel Study. This strategy is a whole class approach to reading with texts aimed to teach higher level vocabulary and comprehension skills. Through these lessons teachers will read short extracts to teach word reading skills including intonation and how to take note of punctuation. They are taught how to draw on and extend their knowledge of vocabulary, how to make inferences from the text, how to predict, how to explain their opinions, how to retrieve information and how to summarise key events.

If you have any questions about either of the reading schemes for Year 2 – 6 please email [office@leybournechase.viat.org.uk](mailto:office@leybournechase.viat.org.uk) who will then pass on your queries to the relevant person.

Kind regards

**Mrs G Robinson**  
Literacy Lead

