



Reading for pleasure

St John & St Francis Accelerated Reader

We all know how important reading is to children's development.

That's why at St John and St Francis we ask that all children spend at least 20 minutes, every day, reading a book at home. This could be by themselves, but equally it could be with an adult.

Talk to your child about the book they are reading, or that you are reading together. This will help to develop their understanding of the text.

At St John and St Francis, we use the accelerated reading scheme. Your child will take a STAR reading test every half term- this will look at the child's speed, vocabulary and general understanding of texts that they read. From this test, the teachers will be given a 'ZPD range' which they will use to know which books are best suited to challenge and extend your child's reading. A book with too low a number on the spine will likely be too easy, a number too high would be too hard.

Success on these tests is down to thinking carefully about the choice of words for a sentence and reading the question thoroughly without racing in with the first answer that comes to mind. It is also routed in a sound vocabulary. I love to see and hear children questioning what different words mean and attempting to use them in their own speech and writing. Try to encourage this inquisitiveness in words in the books that your child is reading.

When your child has finished reading their book they will be able to take a quiz in the classroom. We would encourage the children to take the books with them to do this quiz, and, rather than re-read the book, use it to skim for answers that they have an idea of the location for.

The child will instantly know how they have done on this quiz, and the teacher will be able to see the results of these too. The teachers will have all set the children some targets. Every book is worth a certain number of points, depending on the complexity of the book. Once the quiz has been completed, the child will be awarded a percentage of the points on offer. They must get 60%+ to get any of these points.

We would expect an accuracy of around 85% on the quizzes. Anything less than this suggests the books are too hard.

Each half term the teacher will record the new ZPD range in your child's reading record.

You will also get a sticker in your child's reading record to let you know what their quiz progress has been like that half term.

At the end of every half term, each teacher will choose one 'Star reader': someone who has made an extra effort with their reading. They will get to go to the Head Teacher's office to collect a prize and some well-earned recognition.

Minimum of 20 minutes reading every day

$\frac{1}{2}$ termly STAR reading test- results will be in the reading record books

ZPD range tells the teacher how difficult the books should be to accelerate the child's reading

Result from the quiz- child gets their score. Depending on the book and the result, points are awarded.

Every half term, each teacher chooses a 'Star reader'.

