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Dear parents/carers,

Since the second week of term, children in Years 3-6 have completed a reading assessment (Star Reading Assessment) and have been given a new reading level based on our Accelerated Reader Program (AR). This reading level will be written on the front of their reading records and over the next week, your child will come home with a book that offers appropriate challenge and interest. This program also means that your child will have access to a wider range of books throughout the school.

[Accelerated Reader](#) is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Once your child has picked their book and finished reading it, they will take a short quiz either on a computer in school or at home. Passing the quiz is an indication that your child has understood what was read. Accelerated Reader gives children and teachers' feedback based on the quiz results, which allows teachers to tailor their Guided Reading lessons.

AR is designed to improve a child's reading comprehension and promote reading for pleasure. The children have been introduced to AR in school through a whole school assembly and their teachers have been showing them how to select a book and how to take a quiz on the book they have completed.

The process is as followed:

- Children take a Star Reader Assessment on a computer at school. This determines each individual child's ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development). The Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) defines the readability range within which pupils should read to best develop their reading, while avoiding frustration.
- Children will take a Star Reader Assessment at the beginning of every term so teachers can adjust their ZPDs in their reading records and children can choose new books from their new ZPD.
- The children's ZPD will be written in their reading records. If a child has a reading ZPD for example of 3.4 – 5.6, it means they can read any book labelled between this. The lower the number the more comfortable it will be for the child to read; the higher the number the more challenging the books become for that child within that ZPD.
- The children will then select a reading book from the book corner in their classroom. However, they can also read any book from around the school from within their ZPD.
- Children then take that book home to read. Reading records should be filled in and returned to school every day. A child will bring their reading record in, in the morning and get it signed by their class teacher. In each classroom there is a 'Have you read?' chart. When a teacher signs the reading record, the child puts a dot next to their name. This allows the class teacher to monitor who is reading. If a child reads 200 times or more over the course of the year, they will earn a place in the 200 club; this means their picture will be taken and put in the paper to celebrate this milestone. There are also many other rewards for the children to earn.
- Once the children have read a whole book, they will take a quiz. They need to do this within 48 hours, however doing it in 24 hours is better. The quiz is not a memory test so the children must have their book with them as they take the quiz so they can refer back to it as often as they would like.
- The quiz takes no longer than 10 minutes and at school we are happy for children to do this when they come into school. They can also take their quiz at lunchtime in the computer room where our Digital Leaders will be on standby to help.
- Children must get 85% of the quiz correct in order to move on.

'One Childhood One Chance'

Chilton Primary School, Ramsgate Arts Primary School and Upton Junior School are operated by **Viking Academy Trust** which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 09449979. The Registered Office is at Chilton Primary School, Chilton Lane, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 0LQ. Viking Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



- The results from the quizzes and other assessments that we will complete in school give us a great deal of information that we can use to inform our teaching and learning.

AR also promotes reading for pleasure and if a child does see a book they want to read that is outside of their ZPD then we encourage this as well. It just means they cannot take a quiz on that book. They can also read books that are not on the AR program – not all books can be found within AR. Again, we encourage children to read these and add them to their reading records.

We encourage children to log on at home using the following web address:

global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/2240602

Your child will have their log in details in their reading records. When logged on, children can also look at their word count and see information about their reading habits.

Rewards:

Each class will have its own reward system in place for reading and/or quizzing. These are currently being put in to place and very soon your child will be able to tell you all about it. There are also many whole school rewards including:

- Certificate in each class for the person who has done the most quizzes and for who has read the most words each term.
- Class certificate for the class that has read the most words and done the most quizzes plus a new class book. Termly.
- Reading champion certificates will continue weekly in assembly.
- Termly STAR READER awards. This is awarded for reading a lot of books, receiving good results in the quizzes, or because there is an improvement over the term. It isn't about being the best, it is about trying your best.
- Millionaires Club - is awarded to pupils who have read over a million words over the course of the year.
- 200 Club
- Special tea with Miss Scarr for reading success.

If you have any questions about our reading program, please speak or email your class teacher or myself.

Thank you for all you are doing to support your child's reading at home.

Gemma Scarr

Assistant Headteacher.

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