



18th January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

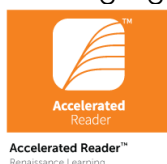
I am pleased to inform you that your child is currently taking part in the Accelerated Reader Program at Bournville School. This program has not only been specifically designed to improve pupils' reading ability and continue to raise their reading age, but also to encourage and nurture a love of reading that will continue into adulthood.

Please could you join us in encouraging your child to read at home, and complete an Accelerated Reader test for each book they read, as soon as they have finished it. The tests can be accessed via the following link:

<https://ukhosted44.renlearn.co.uk/1893876/>

Students have all been sent this link via Show My Homework.

Once they have logged in to the system, using the username and password they have recorded in their planners, they should click on the Accelerated Reader Test with the following logo:



If your child has forgotten their password you can email the Librarian Mrs Hutchinson at Hutchinson.v@bournville.bham.sch.uk and she will send you the password.

Reading is a national priority for a number of reasons: being able to demonstrate competent reading skills is essential for subjects across the entire curriculum, and improves wellbeing and mental health. Research shows that a pupil who reads regularly for 20 minutes per day is far more likely to be successful at GCSE level and beyond. However, a child's reading age can go down as well as up, so it is important that children and teenagers read regularly to retain this skill and continually improve their reading age.

Students in Y7 and Y8 are expected to read for 30 minutes each week as part of their homework, and we will be using the tests completed to monitor this. Students can do as many tests as the books they have read, and should complete the test at home or using the library computers before school, after school, at break or at lunch, within two days of finishing their book. They should then return their book to the library and take another book out.

The Accelerated Reader Program works by identifying a pupil's ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) which is essentially a selection of books that will not only match their ability, but will also challenge them and develop their vocabulary. Pupils will choose books from our library that fall within this range and, when they have finished the book, they will take a short, electronic quiz that assesses their understanding of what they have read. This enables us as teachers to have meaningful discussions about a pupil's reading: what they have learnt and how we can help them to develop.

P.T.O

At Bournville School, we also want pupils to appreciate how valuable and rewarding reading can be. To this end, we will reward pupils for their individual successes during this process.

As far as possible, the pupils will be conducting their twenty minute reading session within school however we would like to ask for your assistance in ensuring that your child reads regularly at home and takes Accelerated Reader tests for the books they have read, as this will help them achieve more widely in school, and open them to a world of new experiences.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Yours faithfully

Dr Anna Burrells
Literacy Co-ordinator