

Tuesday 17th September 2024

Reading at Ryecroft

Dear Parents/Carers,

We use Accelerated Reader (AR) across our school which is a computer program that nurtures independent reading in pupils and supports teaching staff to monitor pupils' reading development.

At the beginning of each term, pupils will undertake a short online assessment at school, which will identify their Zone of Proximal Development or ZPD (the readability range within which pupils receive appropriate challenge while avoiding frustration). After the assessment, pupils can use our school library to select a book which falls within their ZPD range (all library books are catalogued and colour banded to support them to complete this task). They should bring their chosen book to classes and form time as they will be given opportunities to read independently throughout the school day.

When pupils finish their book, they should take the relevant AR Reading Practice Quiz to assess their understanding of what they have read. Ideally, pupils should do this within 48 hours of completing the book. These quizzes are an important part of the program as they enable us to monitor pupil engagement and reward them for their commitment and efforts through our Reading Riches scheme.

As we want to encourage our pupils to follow their own interests, we do not discourage them from reading books that fall outside their ZPD range. Therefore, pupils can have up to two reading books with them at school but we ask that at least one of these be at the appropriate ZPD.

If a book has not been selected through the school library, the following website can determine the ZPD range of a book: <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/default.aspx>

Please note that pupils are given their own login details to access AR at home or at school throughout the academic year. KS2 pupils will receive a copy of these details in their Reading Diaries, which will be issued shortly.

Finally, we would like to ask for your assistance in ensuring that your child reads regularly at home (aim for three reads, thirty minutes each) as this will help them to achieve a faster than average rate of progress.

All of our English teachers will be guiding pupils through each step in the process so please contact them for support and direction if required.

Yours sincerely



Ms. F. Simon
Head of English