



Dear Parents and Guardians,

New to Borden this year is Accelerated Reader, currently available to Year 7 students only. This is a popular on-line reading programme, which many of you will already be familiar with as a number of our feeder schools use AR. I feel it's important to have a structured reading programme such as this, which encourages the boys to read and look at different genres and generally challenge their reading skills. I have been so impressed this year at the calibre of reading levels, which I'm hoping will continue.

So a bit more about the programme itself. At the beginning of each term every Year 7 boy will sit on on-line 'Star' reading test. The result gives us a level which then relates to a group of books. We colour code the reading books in the library to make it easier to find books which are right for the reader. Then points targets are set, the boys choose a book, read it and then complete an on-line reading quiz. We would expect 85% correct on each book, with the points score adding up throughout the term with the aim of reaching or indeed exceeding the target. When a student scores 100% they are rewarded with a small prize, and their 'name star' then goes onto the 100% board which is situated outside the library. There are more prizes and rewards to be earned throughout the year. The beauty of AR is that the programme works for boys at all levels and will record and praise improvement. As Parents/Guardians, you can connect online to the programme and look at your son's bookshelf, which gives you information on scores and targets. I'll be sending out the details of how to do this very soon.

For boys that are not keen on reading, AR gives me the opportunity to help them find suitable titles and give encouragement. For keen readers, it gives them complete control over their book choices.

On Monday 30th, we're holding a Halloween Spooktacular at lunchtime in the library. All boys that pass a quiz will get a prize, and there will be a few other spooky things going on. Please encourage your son to read and complete a book over the break and take part in the event.

If you have any queries at all regarding the Accelerated Reader, or indeed the library itself and what it has to offer your son, then please email me at lbrown@bordengrammar.kent.sch.uk

Best regards

LOUISE BROWN
LIBRARIAN