

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 7 students have the amazing opportunity to spend one English lesson a week in the library. The main aim of these lessons is to offer a quiet and safe space for students to develop their reading skills with the help of the class teacher, library staff and any assigned teaching assistants. Our ultimate goal is to encourage a love of reading by helping to support and improve reading levels.

Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a reading programme which is designed to track the progress of reading by checking student understanding of the books they have read.

STAR reading tests

At the beginning of every term students complete a STAR reading test which generates a reading level range and read age. The September 2023 STAR test scores have been given to students as individual letters which they will bring home this week.

Accelerated Reader lessons

Within the lessons we use different techniques to encourage and support students with their reading.

Challenge sheets

Each pupil has a challenge target sheet for the AR lessons which they can add to at any time. Once all the challenges are complete they will receive a reward postcard home.

Weekly word counts

Each Monday the weekly word counts for each tutor group will be given to tutors and Mr Ryder (Head of Year 7) to celebrate the success of groups and individuals.

Rewards

To encourage students reading we have a series of rewards related to reading.

Achieving 100% on a quiz - students receive a reward stamp.

Completing challenge sheets - students will receive a postcard home.

Every term there are several rewards such as the highest word count reader, most improved reader, reader with the most enthusiasm.

If students receive a full level increase between STAR reading tests they will receive a postcard home.

We are also issuing raffle tickets to students who achieve 80% or above on their Book Buzz quiz.

Reading at home

We encourage students to read for at least 20 minutes each day; it would be great if this continued at home either to themselves or be read to by an adult or sibling. They are allowed to get books out from the library before school during their break and lunch or during tutor times. When students finish books at home they are able to complete an AR quiz.



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Accessing Accelerated Reader at home

If students want to complete an accelerated reader quiz at home they must use the Accelerated Reader account associated with our school [Welcome \(renaissance-go.com\)](https://www.renaissance-go.com). If you are asked for the Renaissance – ID, it is **CKS-23YT**.

To log into their account:

Use the school username 23 first initial and surname (for example, 23asmith).

Password abc123 (unless pupils changed their password).

Once again, thank you for all your support and encouragement with your child's reading. If you have any questions regarding the programme, please do not hesitate to contact me on vlewis@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,

Ms V Lewis

Teacher of English, Literacy and Learning Support