



# LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

*"Putting children first. Progress through partnership"*

Headteacher - Mr Steve Abey

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Dear Parents

Your child has moved on to the Accelerated Reader scheme that we use to support individual reading in school.

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a computer program that helps us to manage children's independent practice. Your child picks a book at their level (given by the class teacher) and reads it through a couple of times. At this point it is important that you discuss the book including the setting, characters and events in the story with them.

When finished reading and discussing the book, your child takes a short quiz in school on the computer/iPad. Passing the quiz is an indication that your child has understood what they have read. If necessary, children are supported to access the quiz and guided through the questions to ensure that they can access them. We try to keep quizzing low stakes as we do not wish to discourage children or worry them about the outcome of them.

In school, we will guide them to choose books appropriate to their ability and interests. Reading levels, quiz accuracy and comprehension will be closely tracked by the class teacher.

It must be mentioned here that children are not encouraged to race through the levels. Books within a level will vary in length and complexity and there is merit in reading all books, even ones that they can read fluently. You may feel that sometimes your child is reading a book that you feel is too easy for them. When children read through books and make very few mistakes, it can give them a boost in self-esteem and encourage a love of reading, rather than seeing reading a chore. It also embeds sentence and story structures and exposes them to wider vocabulary. Teachers try to balance learning to read with encouraging a love of reading. Teachers are not run by the system and look and think about each child individually to ensure that they are both progressing and enjoying reading.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to the class teacher at the end of the day or contact us via the School Office.

Many thanks for your continued support at home.

Natalie Bayes

Deputy Headteacher

