

Headteacher: Mrs S. King

19 November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### Accelerated Reader – Developing Literacy at BFS

At BFS we believe that developing literacy skills and a love of reading is strongly linked to academic progress and a key part of this is the Accelerated Reader (AR) programme. This is a highly successful national scheme that has been proven to raise the reading ages of students through a system of reading and 'review'. Accelerated Reader is designed to:

- Find books that are the right level for each child
- Encourage children to read more
- Improve each child's reading ability
- Improve each child's confidence with reading

The first stage of Accelerated Reader requires students in Years 7 & 8 to take an on-line Star Reading Test. This creates a test score, which gives your child a reading age, as well as other key information. This is summarised on the parent report included with this letter. Please do not be concerned if your child's reading age is lower than expected as the AR scheme is designed to quickly improve reading ages.

Additional information includes a ZPD score, also known as **book level**. For example, a score of between 3.6 – 5.6 means your child can read books from levels 3.6 to 5.6; a book with a higher level will provide greater challenge. At the start of AR we would encourage your child to read a book that is towards the lower end of their book level score. Our Learning Resource Centre (LRC) has been set up for students to easily identify books at the correct level, with a colour coding scheme. All books are classified by **book level**. Students have a dedicated library lesson every two weeks, but of course can visit the LRC at other times to borrow new books. Our Accelerated Reader co-ordinator Ms Currie is available to support students in finding appropriate books to read.

#### Finding books and AR Quizzing

We are keen for students to access AR to read and quiz at home as well as in school. The instructions below highlight how to do this.

- Students log onto AR using the following link:  
<https://ukhosted113.renlearn.co.uk/3512653/>

- Use their school username and the password READING

- Students will then see the image on the right

- Click on Accelerated Reader icon

- You will then be given a search option and images of recommended books. All books on the AR website have quizzes linked to them, which students complete once they have read their chosen book. The website does not provide students with a copy of the book.



- Check the book is at the correct level. Gangsta Granny by David Walliams would be an appropriate choice at **book level 4.9**, for a child with a score of between 3.6 – 5.6.

**Gangsta Granny**  
by David Walliams  
Level 4.9 MY • Fiction • Quiz 220860 EN • Points 5

Meet Ben's granny. Like a lot of grannies, she has white hair, false teeth and used tissues tucked up her sleeve. Unlike most grannies, she's an international jewel thief!

Take Quiz

View Vocabulary

- Once your child has finished their book they should take the quiz on the AR website and then decide what to read next.

Should you have any questions related to Accelerated Reader please email [admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk) so your query can be directed to the appropriate member of staff. Thank you for your support with your child's reading and we look forward to sharing their progress in upcoming newsletters.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Jenkins  
Assistant Headteacher