

Accelerated Reading (AR) Questionnaire Results September 2017

Pupils Questionnaire

The pupil questionnaire was distributed to children in P5-7. The more important issue is what we do with what the results have told us. Therefore, in summary:

- Our significant investment in the AR project has been beneficial
- Children indicated that they still choose to read a range of AR and non AR books
- Within school we have centralised our AR stock in the KS2 library. Although children indicated that there are a wide range of books available, we need to purchase some additional books, particularly at the lower and upper ends of the levels.

Parent Survey

The parent questionnaire was distributed to parents of children in P5-7 only, as these children had all being using AR for at least one year. We were delighted with the 73% response. Thank you!

- The responses from parents indicate that generally children are more enthusiastic about the programme than their parents, although only 6% of parents indicated that they 'disliked it'.
- AR is designed to motivate children to read and develop their comprehension, therefore encourages children to read carefully and accurately rather than 'speed reading', hence points for questions answered correctly rather than number of books read. We remain committed to this being an important aspect of developing children's reading skills.
- We will look at the possibility of offering incentives for the number of books read, in addition to quizzes ('Word Millionaires').
- We do recognise that the programme is aimed at encouraging children who lack motivation to read and therefore those children who, naturally choose to read for enjoyment, may not be as engaged with the programme.

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However, we are delighted that the children's responses indicate that they still choose a range of books and don't limit themselves to AR texts. We feel that this is very important. All children with the ability to access the programme are expected to participate in it.

- In response to this survey all classes will have dedicated class time, during which a child may decide to complete a quiz. In addition, we have agreed that a computer in each classroom will always be reserved solely for AR quizzes in the mornings. We do encourage children to self-manage AR to a degree, so they need to take some responsibility for organising themselves within the time slots provided.
- We have updated the link to a parent information sheet on our website and hope this answers any questions parents may have. If this doesn't answer any questions we will consider holding a further parent information session later in the school year.
- A letter has also been sent home with each child detailing how to access the 'parent connect' system, including their log in details so that parents can receive emails each time a child takes a quiz.

At the end of this document are the details of each response we received.

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Parents Accelerated Reading (AR) Questionnaire Results

1. In general, how do you feel about AR?

Love it	It's Okay	Don't care about it one way or the other	Dislike it
44%	50%	0%	6%

2. In general how would you say your child feels about AR?

Love it	It's Okay	Don't care about it one way or the other	Dislike it
39%	33%	6%	22%

3. Do you think AR has made a positive difference to your child's reading habits?

Yes	No	Not sure
72%	22%	6%

4. Do you think AR has made a difference in your child's reading ability?

Yes	No	Not sure
61%	33%	6%

5. Do you think the AR programme has helped motivate your child to read more?

Yes	No	Not sure
67%	27%	6%

6. Is there any area of AR programme you would like to know more about?

ZPD	Book Quizzes	Selecting suitable books	Star Reading Test	No
22%	16%	11%	11%	40%

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Parent Comments and suggestions

Some comments have been collated if they were similar

- I would like to receive e-mails about AR quiz results.
- It is difficult for the children to access a computer to complete an AR quiz.
- A lot of books in the library aren't on the AR programme so quizzes cannot be completed by the children.
- More AR books are needed for each level in school
- Children forget to take quizzes after reading an AR book; then when reminded it's been too long since they have read the book. They forget the story and as a result they don't score well in the quiz.
- Children need a lot of motivation at home to read.
- AR being part of the school day and not left to the child's initiative to complete a quiz would work better.
- Children feel rushed to read books and complete AR quizzes.
- Children only get rewarded for when they complete AR quizzes successfully not for the number of books they read.
- Limits children's reading choices to only AR books
- AR makes reading a chore

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1. AR has helped me to become a better reader.

Yes	No	Don't know
74%	4%	22%

2. I read only books that have AR quizzes available.

Yes	No	Don't know
43%	48%	9%

3. The local library has a wide variety of AR books available.

Yes	No	Don't know
61%	4%	35%

4. I read books that do not have AR quizzes available.

Yes	No	Don't know
48%	35%	22%

5. I read mainly because I want to gain rewards or AR points.

Yes	No	Don't know
43%	43%	9%

6. I read mainly because I enjoy reading.

Yes	No	Don't know
61%	22%	17%

7. My classroom has a wide variety of AR books and quizzes.

Yes	No	Don't know
13%	30%	56%

8. My school library has a wide variety of AR books and quizzes.

Yes	No	Don't know
87%	4%	9%

9. The AR programme has helped me enjoy reading.

Yes	No	Don't know
56%	30%	13%

Ideas and comments that pupils have about AR programme

I would like more books.

I don't like reading.

It makes me able to do it.

I read much better.

I like it because it encourages me to read.

It strengthens your mind.

It's quite hard.

AR is fun.