

24th Nov, 2020



IT'S HERE!

Read on to find out more...



Welcome to this special edition newsletter. Here you will find out everything you need to know about our new library, Y5 & Y6 librarian roles and our new reading system – Accelerated Reader.

The Grand Opening

On Friday 20th November, 2020, NPSB launched its new library.

Classes tuned in to a virtual opening where they listened to a special speech from Mrs G Kaur and watched the ribbon cutting.

Throughout the day, Years 2 – 6 visited the library to select their new book.

Everyone was super excited and loved seeing the brand new books on offer.



The Grand Opening



What we want for our children ...

- We want our children to love reading.
- We want our children to become independent, confident readers.
- We want our children to leave Nishkam Primary School at the right reading level.
- We want our children to be prepared for secondary school and for their future life.



**WE LOVE
READING**



Our new library looks very different!

- We wanted to give our children a brand new library because WE LOVE READING and believe that reading should be at the heart of our school.
- On Friday 20th November, our new library had its grand opening! We hope you enjoyed looking at the photos.
- There are so many new books to choose from...and more are still coming! We can't wait!
- This library is currently for Years 2 – 6 who are on the Accelerated Reader programme. But don't fear Reception and Year 1, we are busy working on our phonics library for you all to enjoy too. More details to follow later this year.



Our Library Rules

Our library is for everyone and we MUST take care of it. These are our library rules. Please help to support your child with how we behave when visiting a library. This is important to know for when they visit local libraries too.

When you are in the library, you:

- must be quiet
- must not run around
- must not drink or eat
- must keep it tidy for others
- must scan your book in or out
- must only take one library book at a time
- must treat it with respect and care



IMPORTANT: Looking after books

Our library books are for everyone and therefore must be treated with respect and care.

- Some books have plastic covers on them. These are to help protect the books and must not be removed.
- Please look after all books when they are at home. Do not rip them, write in or draw in them. Please do not leave them lying about where younger siblings or pets can damage them. Keep them in a safe place!
- Try not to put your books near food or drinks. It's okay to have a reading snack whilst reading...but no one wants crumbs left in a book!
- If the book has been damaged (eg torn, stained, written in, scribbled on etc), we will be asking parents to pay for a replacement. This fine will be charged via Parent Pay.

Our new books are labelled differently

- On the spines of the books, you will find a label with numbers on and a coloured label.
- The number labels:






RL – Reading Level

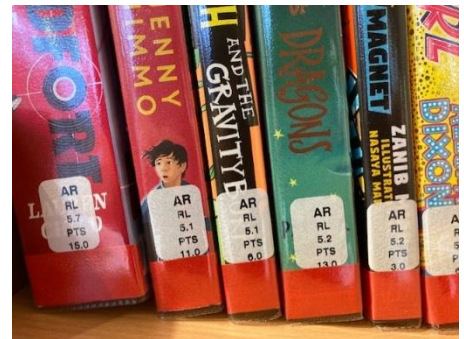
(linked to your child's ZPD – please see next page for details)

Pts – Points

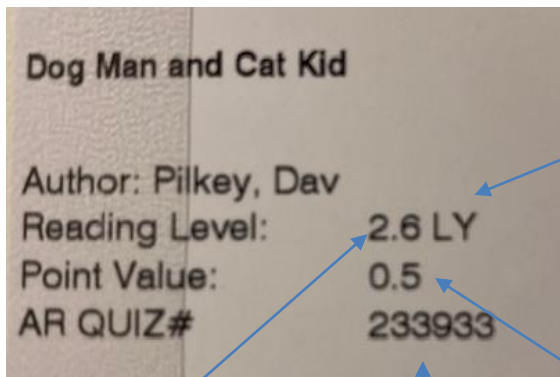
(How many points your child earns reading the book and completing the quiz.
Please see the following pages for further details)

The colour label links to the RL:

	0.0 to 1.9		4 to 4.9
	2 to 2.9		5 to 5.9
	3 to 3.9		6 and above



- Inside the cover of the books is another label:



Interest levels are two letters next to the reading level:
LY – Lower Years (roughly aged 5-8)
MY – Middle Years (roughly 9 – 13)
MY+ - Middle Years, but towards the upper end.

Points earned from quizzes

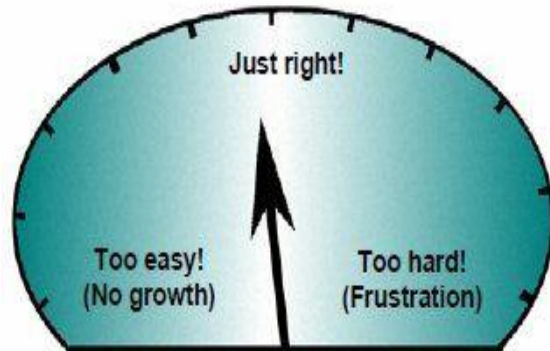
Reading level

AR quiz number

How to know what reading level your child is...

- Children in Years 2 – 6 sat a STAR Test last term.
- This test has helped us to find out a reading level range for your child – it is called a ZPD. Your child will sit this test every term, which means their ZPD may change.
- This special ZPD will be given to your child by their class teacher. This will help your child select books at the right level for them. Your child will select from a number within those two numbers. They may want to start from the lower number before moving up. Their teacher will help to guide them.

Zone of Proximal Development



Name
.....

Class
.....

ZPD
.....

Login
.....

WE LOVE READING!

- A ZPD allows children to choose the right level book for them – not too hard, not too easy. But it also allows them to independently select books that interest them.
- Your child would have completed a bookmark that has their ZPD and AR login details. These details aren't currently for home use but they will be using them in school.

What is Accelerated Reader?



Accelerated
Reader

- Accelerated Reader(AR) is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice, **it is not a reading scheme**. Over 30,000 quality books have been 'quizzed' and linked to their system.
- Your child picks a book **at their own level** and reads it at their own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer **at school**. Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read. AR gives children and teachers feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher then uses to help your child set goals and direct ongoing reading practice.
- If your child does not do well on the quiz, the teacher may help your child select alternate books to help determine the best Reading Level for your child.
- In most cases, children really enjoy taking the quizzes. Since they're reading books at their reading and interest levels, they are likely to be successful. This is satisfying for most children. Best of all, they learn and grow at their own pace.
- **Every book has points** that your child can earn. Some books have more points than others because they are harder to read and understand.
- Points are logged after your child has taken a quiz. But your child will only get points if they have **understood** the book. Therefore, it is important they choose a book at the right level for them.



FAQs

• Why isn't my child using Accelerate Reader?

If your child is in Reception or Year 1, or if your child is still developing their phonological awareness, your child will be reading books matched to their phonics phase. A child needs to have some fluency in their reading as this programme does not teach phonics or the mechanics of reading - it consolidates their learning and promotes comprehension and a love of reading.

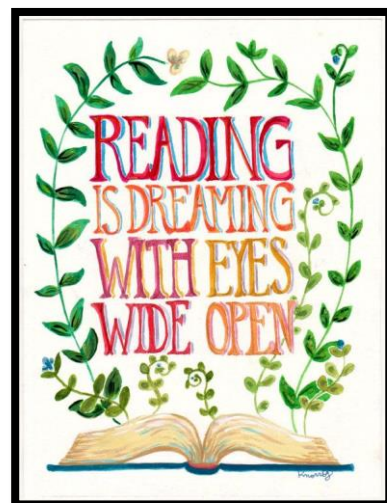
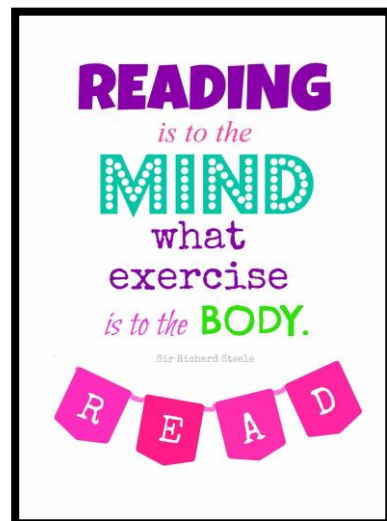
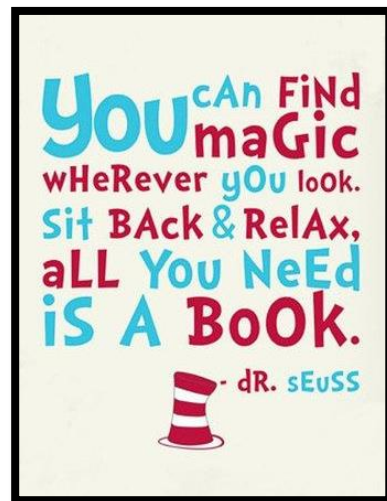
When your child enters Year 2, or has some fluency in their reading and understanding, they will sit a Star Reading test to determine whether they are ready to start AR. If they aren't, your child will continue to work on the development of their reading skills using phonics books.

• What if my child wants to read a book not from the school library?

Every child from Years 2 – 6 will have a library book from school. This isn't a scheme, but a system. Children will independently choose a book they want to read and are interested in. If your child still wants to read other books, as well as their school library book, they can do. If you would like to see if their own book is within the AR system and can sit a quiz, they can do so at www.arbookfind.co.uk. There are over 30,000 Accelerated Reader quizzes available, with more being written every month. That is a lot of books to read!

• How can I help my child become a better reader?

As with anything, performance improves with practice. Encourage your child to read at home. Create a culture of reading in your household by reading with your child, starting a home library, visiting your local library on a regular basis, letting your child see you reading, and discussing books that each of you has read. When reading with your child, stop and ask questions to be sure your child is comprehending what is read. Reading with your child, no matter what the child's age, is an important part of developing a good reader, building a lifelong love of reading and learning, and creating a loving relationship between you and your child. Make learning a family affair!



Pupil Librarians

Pupil Librarian Job description

Are you in Years 5 and 6? Do you love books? Are you looking for an opportunity to develop your personal skills? Well, we are looking for dedicated, organised and reliable pupils who can help us manage our new library.

The role will include:

- Looking after the library and caring for the books
- Contribute to the library displays including 'top picks', 'recommended authors' and 'must reads'
- Ensuring books are organised in the correct way using our Accelerated Reader system
- Being a role model for using the library and for reading
- Giving book recommendations to other children

Please note that your role will take place during some of your lunchtimes. Please think carefully if you are willing to dedicate this time to this position.

If you are interested in applying, please collect an application form from your class teacher or print the following page. Once completed, please return to Ms Owen or Miss Prior.

The deadline for all applications is Tuesday 1st December

Pupil librarians will be selected and announced on 4th December

We look forward to your applications!





LIBRARIAN



Pupil Librarian Application

Pupil Librarian Job description

Are you in Years 5 and 6? Do you love books? Are you looking for an opportunity to develop your personal skills? Well, we are looking for dedicated, organised and reliable pupils who can help us manage our new library.

The role will include:

- Looking after the library and caring for the books
- Contribute to the library displays including 'top picks', 'recommended authors' and 'must reads'
- Ensuring books are organised in the correct way using our Accelerated Reader system
- Being a role model for using the library and for reading
- Giving book recommendations to other children

Please note that your role will take place during some of your lunchtimes. Please think carefully if you are willing to dedicate this time to this position.

The deadline for all applications is Tuesday 1st December. Pupil librarians will be selected and announced on 4th December

Applicant's Full Name: _____

Applicant's Class Name: _____

Why do you want to become a Pupil Librarian?

What qualities and skills do you have that will make you good at this job?

What is your favourite book or author, and why?