



Friday 24th September 2021



Dear KS2 Parents/Guardians,



Reading At Home

Over the past few weeks, it has been wonderful to see the children settling back into the routine of school life and it has been brilliant to see that the 'buzz' surrounding reading remains as strong as ever.

Accelerated Reader

As many of you are aware, we have successfully used Accelerated Reader with our Key Stage 2 children over the past few years. At Rushall, we believe that reading is of great importance as it is key to academic success. Research has clearly shown that pupils who enjoy reading improve their vocabulary, increase their ability to think analytically, become more skilled writers and have sharper memories. Ultimately, it can help them to achieve better results in all National Curriculum subjects.

Through Accelerated Reader, each child is expected to take electronic quizzes on the books that they have read; this is a key way to measure the children's understanding and track their reading progress - it is also a great incentive for the children to read regularly.

Within school, all KS2 children read for a minimum of 20 minutes a day and we strongly encourage that the children also repeat this at home. When at home, the Key Stage Two children may wish to read independently in their heads, but it would also be wonderful if they could still read to an adult or older sibling to continue to support their fluency, expression and comprehension.

The children are rewarded for their achievements in Accelerated Reader with 'star reader' certificates and Amazon vouchers for those who become 'word reading millionaires'.



Microsoft School

Reading Log Books

This school year, we are continuing to use the 'reading log books' as a way for KS2 children to record their reading both in school and at home, and to make note of their quiz scores. It would be brilliant if you could try to remind your child to log each time they read at home and to make a note of the page numbers. As in KS1, you may wish to make a comment in your child's log book about how your child found the book and any strengths or difficulties they may have had.

Wider Reading

At home, it is important to try to encourage your child to read a variety of different genres and for a variety of purposes. Sharing lots of different genres of books with your child exposes them to a wider range of vocabulary, different kinds of images and broadens their worldview; it also helps your child to develop their thinking skills and broadens their experiences. In light of this, and with Christmas rapidly approaching, it might be a good time to start to think about Christmas presents for

your child. Within school, the children are familiar with the Aquila

(<https://www.aquila.co.uk/product/subscriptions>) and

First News (<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk>)

publications, both of which offer yearly subscriptions and may be a useful gift for a Key Stage Two child. Many booksellers also provide collections of a wide range of non-fiction books which your child may be interested in.



If you would like any further advice about reading in Key Stage Two or about good quality texts to inspire your child, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Cook (English Lead)

