Accelerated Reading Questionnaire Results – 2021

The pupil questionnaire was distributed to pupils in Key Stage 2. 112 questionnaires were completed in total. The more important issue is what we do with the information collated from the results.

In summary:

* Our continuing investment in AR is proving to be beneficial in the fact that over 95% of pupils stated that they love or like this program.
* Children indicate that AR has made a positive impact upon their reading habits and believe that it is supporting them in becoming better readers
* Throughout the questionnaire positive comments far out-weighed negative comments with the quizzes and positive incentives being high on the pupils reasons for enjoying the programme
* 80% of pupils stated that the wider selection of books which they personally choose from has motivated them to read more
* The vast majority of pupils were aware of their reading target and what they needed to do to reach their reading goal
* The AR programme is designed to motivate children to read and develop their comprehension, therefore we were pleased to find that the pupils responded positively to the quizzes with many pupils stating that they helped them to understand the book as they were reading more concisely for understanding rather than skimming through books
* Attitudes towards reading were very positive
* It was apparent that the vast majority of pupils know how they are progressing with their reading and alongside teacher comments, the AR pupil profiles really support our children in understanding their targets, viewing their progress and providing motivation and challenge in their reading.

Areas for development

* The use of the library has been restricted due to COVID routines and this is an area which we are continuously evaluating

Next steps:

* Create library timetable to use library during school sessions e.g. project work, research, group reading, collaborative learning sessions. The aim for the children to use the space purposefully and with enjoyment and create a sense of space where they do not feel it is a chore or additional work to visit. (Link to interests such as football or cars)
* Expand library for younger siblings and parents to get families on board with our reading journey and provide a space to be used and enjoyed by all. This feeds in with our mission to create a culture of reading which is valued and which both pupils and parents are enthusiastic about.
* The feedback related to the quizzes and prizes was positive. Therefore, we will continue with the Reader Leader Board this year. We hope that these incentives will challenge children to read more which in turn will engage them with more books hopefully which they will enjoy.
* From the results we found that the majority of pupils select books from the shelves. We are pleased as this opens up children to new genres and authors, however this can also make it more difficult to find specific books.
* Provide a KS2 reading session introducing them to the AR book search facility. This will allow them to search for books of interest and find them quickly. This will also allow them to access books which they may have at home that are also linked to an AR quiz.
* Some children stated that although we do have a good selection of books available the titles for middle years with a lower ZPD were too young.
* A bid has been placed and an additional 70 titles for ZPD 0.5-2.9 for KS2 readers have been purchased.
* Some children, particularly in Year 3, are unfamiliar with some aspects of AR. Using the results each class will have a short question and answer session with Mrs Addy in the Autumn Term to familiarise them with all aspects inc. targets, quizzes, ZPD etc.
* Reading for pleasure remains a priority at St Mary and St Joseph’s. A few pupils were concerned that not all books had a ZPD and quiz. The reading of a broad and balanced range of texts must be encouraged and to approach this each class will be given a box of 50 books and reading challenge. This is to promote reading for pleasure and to broaden horizons, rather than to achieve targets. These will be introduced in January 2022.
* The suggestion of sharing new books via posters is an excellent one. We shall therefore promote all new texts before they are placed onto the shelves. This will be the duty of our librarians.
* We also like the idea of reading buddies between UKS2 and KS1, however this will be discussed when restrictions ease around school.