



# READING MATTERS

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path".  
(Psalm 119:105)

September 2022



## Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first Reading Matters newsletter for the new academic year. It has been lovely to welcome our new Year 7 students and see that, despite lots of new routines and challenges, they have settled into life at All Saints' well.

Every term a Reading Matters newsletter will be sent out via Insight and our Facebook page outlining all of the reading events taking place in school and sharing any reading related news with you. Please feel free to share any book recommendations which we can share.

Lathall

Mrs Lathall Reading Co-ordinator

## Accelerated Reader

All pupils in Years 7 and 8 are involved in a program called Accelerated Reader. This program has not only been specifically designed to improve pupils' reading ability and continue to raise their reading age, but also to encourage and nurture a love of reading that will continue into adulthood. Reading is a national priority for a number of reasons: being able to demonstrate competent reading skills is essential for subjects across the entire curriculum. Scientific research shows clearly that a pupil who reads regularly for 20 minutes per day is far more likely to be successful at GCSE level and beyond.

The Accelerated Reader Program works by identifying a pupil's ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) which is essentially a selection of books that will not only match their ability, but will also challenge them and develop their vocabulary.

When they have finished a book, students can take a short, electronic quiz that assesses their understanding of what they have read. This enables us as teachers to have meaningful discussions about a pupil's reading: what they have learnt and how we can help them to develop. To check if there is a quiz available for any books your child has at home, please check [www.arbookfind.co.uk](http://www.arbookfind.co.uk). Students can access AR via the school website.

We would like to ask for your assistance in ensuring that your son/daughter reads regularly at home for short periods of time as this will help to boost their reading confidence and their reading ability.

If you have any questions about reading or the program, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### AR Reading Books

Your son/daughter should now have an AR reading book from school. They need to be reading this book each day as part of their English homework. Once they have finished, they can take a quiz from home, during break or lunch at school or stay for Homework Club Monday-Thursday. Pupils have been given a clear, plastic wallet to keep their book in.



Accelerated™  
Reader

### STAR Reading Tests

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have completed their first STAR reading test.

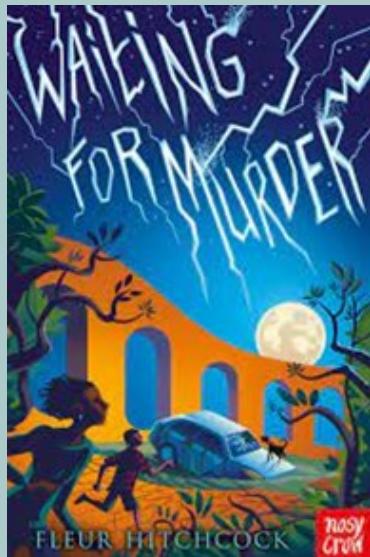
Pupils have written their reading age and ZPD in their planners.



Star  
Reading

# BOOKBUZZ

Bookbuzz is a reading programme from BookTrust that aims to help schools inspire a love of reading in 11 to 13-year-olds. As a school, we have purchased every student in Year 7 a copy of the book "Waiting for Murder" by Fleur Hitchcock. The books will be given to the students later in the academic year.



"It's a long, hot summer. As the water drains away from the reservoir, a car emerges. And there seems to be a body in it, a body that then disappears... Daniel and Florence start to investigate and uncover a long-ago robbery, missing gold and murder. When the drought breaks, everything is swept downstream and the truth is revealed..."

We hope our students enjoy reading this intriguing thriller!

Staying connected through our love of books!



Our school Instagram page enables us to share our love of all things book related. Many thanks to everyone who has liked or commented on a post. Scan the QR code below to follow us at: **allsaintsreading**



## Thinking Reading

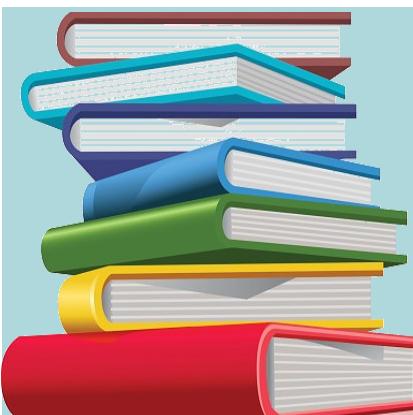
Reading opens the door to learning and to the world.

It is easy to forget that what may seem to us an apparently effortless task can be extremely effortful for some children. Reading is an entitlement of every child as it gives them a tool that they can apply independently at any time, and for a myriad of purposes. Therefore, if they are ill-equipped to read, they are lacking this essential tool whose use is required at almost every juncture of an ordinary day.

As a school, we are focused on improving students' reading to enhance their progress across the curriculum. We also want to ensure our students have the opportunity to explore a range of different texts and foster a love of reading. To support us in our mission, we have partnered with Thinking Reading. Thinking Reading is a whole-school strategy with an intensive, one-to-one intervention at its heart. Staff have already been involved in Thinking Reading training to support pupils who are struggling with their reading to catch up quickly and completely. A designated Thinking Reading hub has been created and we have already begun working with some of our students. This is an exciting new intervention that will help us to ensure that students leave our school able to read confidently.

## Reading CLUB

Lunch Bunch Reading Club will begin again to support some of our students with their reading. Pupils will be invited to come along during lunchtime to get involved in some group reading.



I'd love to hear your book recommendations. Please email me at [Lathall.1@allsaints.notts.sch.uk](mailto:Lathall.1@allsaints.notts.sch.uk) with your top reads! You can also send me any reading related news that you'd like me to share. I look forward to hearing from you.

*Lathall*

Mrs Lathall

