

# St Crispin's School

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**KSH/SH**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Reading at St. Crispin's School**

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all those students who took part in the Reading challenge over the summer holidays. It was wonderful to see so many students taking part and we really hope they enjoyed the novel.

Reading is an important part of the curriculum at St. Crispin's and we will be supporting students to foster their love of reading.

### **Accelerated Reader**

As part of our reading curriculum, students will have access to an internet-based software called Accelerated Reader (AR). This package uses reading ages to suggest books that match pupils' needs (in other words, checks they are reading books that are not too easy and that will challenge them) and perhaps more critically matches their specific interests. Over the course of the year students in Year 7 will be tested regularly to ensure that they are reading appropriate texts. The test will also allow teachers to provide targeted intervention if necessary to help support our students. These tests cannot be revised for, and students should not worry about them at all.

All the books in our library have been re-categorised to help students pick the right books for their reading ability. Pupils take computerised quizzes on the books and earn points as they progress, which are rewarded in school. Research supports the benefits of this reading programme. The study found that Year 7 pupils who were offered Accelerated Reader made three months additional progress in reading compared to other similar pupils.

### **Tutor Reading Program**

As part of our reading strategy students will also be reading with their tutors twice a week during registration. We have chosen novels that cover diverse issues such as race, gender, climate, and other global issues.

### **English Lessons**

As part of their English curriculum, students will be regularly set reading personal study. We would ask for your support in facilitating this by signing their reading journals.

**Further Information**

Please find attached to this letter a booklet which outlines both the importance of reading and ways in which you can support your son/daughter in fostering a love of reading.

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact me - [sharmak@crispins.co.uk](mailto:sharmak@crispins.co.uk)

Thank you in advance for supporting our reading strategy.

Yours faithfully

Kiran Sharma  
Assistant Headteacher

