

**ADDMORE FEDERATION**  
**'Together we add more'**



Adderley CE Primary School  
Adderley, Market Drayton  
Shropshire TF9 3TF

☎ 01630 653 829

✉ [adderleyadmin@addmorefed.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:adderleyadmin@addmorefed.shropshire.sch.uk)

🌐 [www.adderley.shropshire.sch.uk](http://www.adderley.shropshire.sch.uk)

Moreton Say CE Primary School  
Moreton Say, Market Drayton  
Shropshire TF9 3RS

☎ 01630 638 465

✉ [moretonsayadmin@addmorefed.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:moretonsayadmin@addmorefed.shropshire.sch.uk)

🌐 [www.moretonsay.shropshire.sch.uk](http://www.moretonsay.shropshire.sch.uk)



Executive Headteacher: Mrs Kim Stokes

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

At AddMore, we are passionate about ensuring that every child is a reader and they develop their love of reading from a young age. We aim to help them become fluent and independent readers and use a range of strategies to ensure that we support this process at every stage. To aid this further, we have recently decided to implement the use of a programme called Accelerated Reader (AR) into the school.

Accelerated Reader is used as a tool to help teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child will choose a book at his/her own level and reads it at his/her own pace. When finished your child takes a short quiz on the computer based on the book they have read. Their result will be a good indicator about whether the child has understood the book read or whether adjustments need to be made when selecting their next book. Since their books should be selected at their own reading and interest level, most children are likely to enjoy the quizzes, be successful, and recognise the strength in learning at their own pace.

To ensure your child is selecting appropriate books, they will complete termly reading assessments using Accelerated Reader. The test is a computer based reading assessment programme that uses computer adaptive technology. Questions continually adjust to your child's responses, making the difficulty easier or harder as appropriate. The test uses multiple choice questions and takes approximately 20 minutes. Staff will support your child in taking the assessment each term. Following this, book levels will be awarded ranging with scores from 2.0 up to 13.5. Books can be chosen based on recommendations following the reading assessment, where each child will be given a range they can read between (for example 3.2-4.1). The range will allow them to be challenged without feeling frustrated or leading to a loss of motivation. It is important children read with a high degree of comprehension within their given range before moving on to the next band, but termly assessments will help track this and teachers will still use their own judgement if it becomes apparent that children are not working within the correct band.

All our books are now clearly labelled to show the band they are (for example 3.2) and have an accompanying colour band to help our younger readers quickly identify the book they are looking for. We have also signed up to an on-line reading tool called MyOn which enables children to read books and also listen to audiobooks online. This will give them access to a wider range of fiction and non-fiction books at their own individual reading level. They will also be able to take quizzes based on the books they have read on My On. Your child will receive a username and password for MyOn.

To support your child, we would like to ensure that you continue to read with them at home. Accelerated Reader research shows that children who read for at least 20 minutes a day and are gaining a 90% comprehension rate on the AR quizzes will see the greatest gain. To help this, as always we are asking that you continue to fill in your child's reading record each day. Lots of questioning about what your child has read will also benefit them when accessing the quizzes. At school, we will also ensure that your child is being





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heard read regularly through reading to staff individually and through guided reading sessions in small groups.

As well as their Accelerated Reader reading book your child will also be able to choose another book from our school library, one which is their own choice. This book will be one they have chosen for themselves for enjoyment; they will be free to choose from across the range of difficulty for this book. They may choose a higher levelled book to challenge themselves further, or they may choose an easier one or one they have read before for reading for pleasure.

If you have any questions about Accelerated Reader, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, who will be more than happy to talk to you.

Kind regards

Mrs V Baillie  
English Lead

