



# Reading at CNS

*'The more you read, the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.'*

**Dr Zeuss**

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# Why is reading important?



The school has a thriving reading culture. Students and staff alike value reading across all subjects and see it as intrinsic to a student's success.

We celebrate World Book Day every year with fancy dress and reading themed activities. However, the reading culture at CNS is not just about a once a year celebration.

For your child's academic progress reading is crucial. Research has shown that students who choose to pick up a book for pleasure are more likely to succeed in life. In addition, reading can be a fun and imaginative activity for children, which opens doors to all kinds of new worlds for them.

**World Book Day 2020**

**CNS** 





## How do we help students make progress in their reading?

- All students in KS3 have a fortnightly library lesson as part of their English timetable.
- In this lesson they will have the opportunity to borrow books and take part in our Accelerated Reader programme.
- In English we always start our lessons with 5 – 10 minutes reading. In a number of other subjects they also allow students to read their library book for the first part of the lesson.

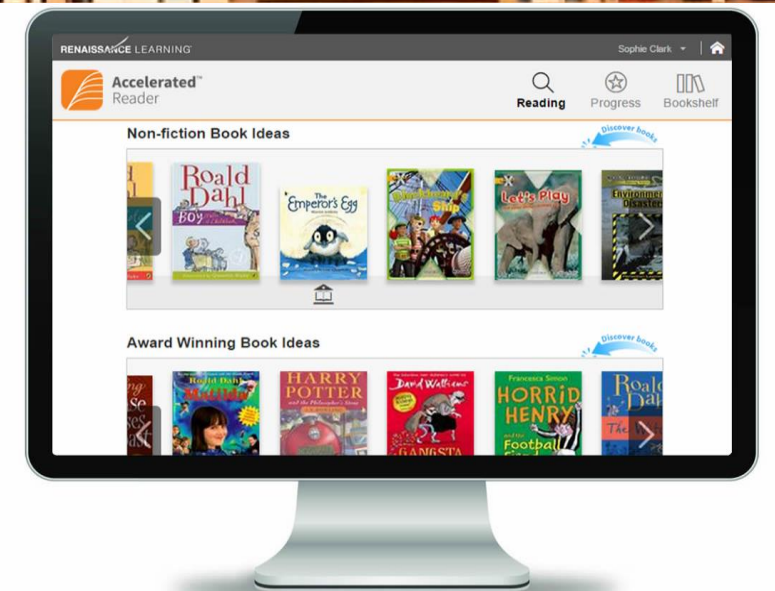


# What is Accelerated Reader?

A student reads a book at their assigned reading level, takes an online quiz about the book, and gets immediate feedback.

Students respond to regular feedback and are motivated to make progress with their reading skills.

Students must answer 60% of the questions to pass the quiz. They will then receive points for the book and make progress towards improving their reading level.





# Star Reading Tests

- The students are given a reading level to ensure the book they are reading is accessible but suitably challenging.
- To determine their reading level they take a Star Reading test in their first library lesson (they are retested termly to track their progress).
- It is a reading test that has fill-in-the-blank and short answer questions. Students answer 34 questions on a computer. The test takes around 30 minutes to do.
- All STAR assessments are computer-adaptive tests (CATs). Computer-adaptive tests continually adjust the difficulty of each child's test by choosing each test question based on the child's previous response.
- If the child answers a question correctly, the difficulty level of the next item is increased. If the child misses a question, the difficulty level is decreased.

After the children went to sleep, the house was quiet and \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1 fortunate
- 2 awkward
- 3 lively
- 4 peaceful

You can find many empty shells at a seashore. These shells were once the homes of small sea animals. Some of the shells are made up of a single piece. Other shells have two halves that open and close.







How are the empty shells different?

- 1 Some can be found on the seashore and some can't.
- 2 Some had small sea animals and some had large ones.
- 3 Some are a single piece and some have two halves.



# Choosing an appropriate book

- After students have completed their Star reading test they will be given a reading level, which is actually a range.
- It is a range of books that will challenge without causing frustration or loss of motivation. It is important for students to read with a high degree of comprehension and within their range.
- The reading level will be recorded in students' planners which they will be required to bring them with them to every English lesson.

	<b>0.0 – 1.9</b>
	<b>2.0 – 2.9</b>
	<b>3.0 – 3.9</b>
	<b>4.0 – 4.9</b>
	<b>5.0 – 5.9</b>
	<b>6.0 +</b>



# Accelerated Reader Quizzes

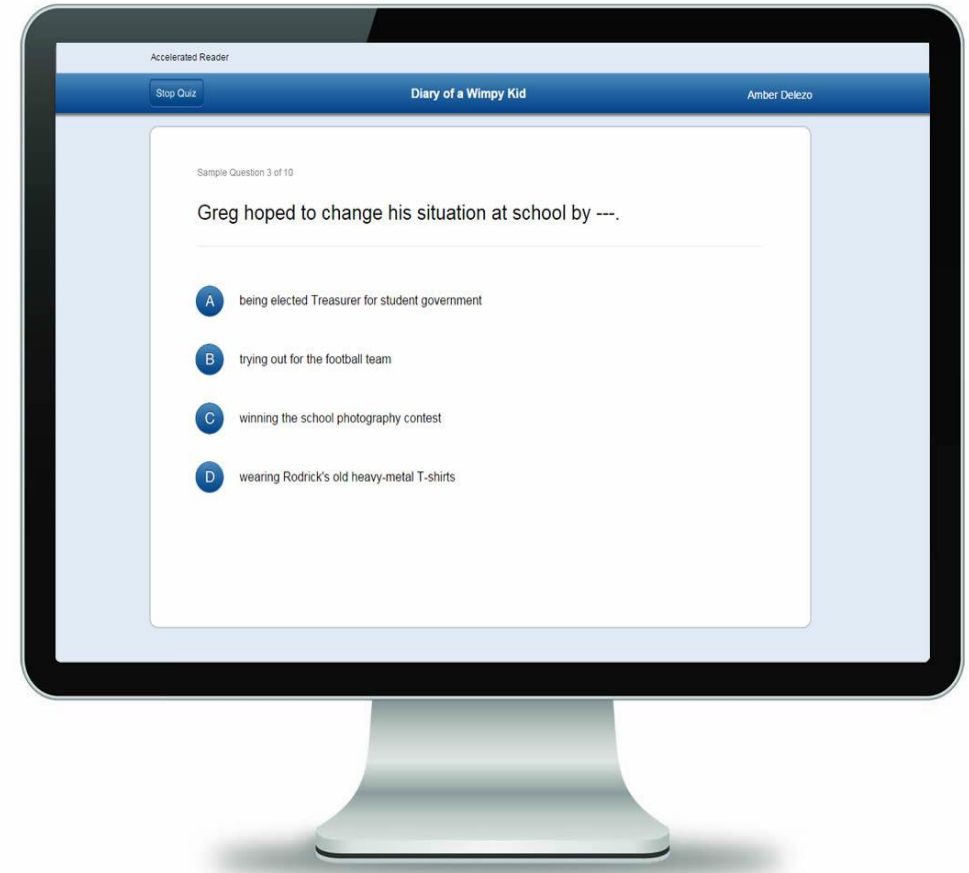
Over 27,000 quizzes and counting.

Accelerated Reader offers unlimited access to more than 27,000 quizzes on fiction and non-fiction books

## Reading Practice

Reading Practice quizzes ask questions that measure a student's comprehension of a book.

There are 3, 5, 10 or 20 questions in an RP quiz depending on the length and complexity of the book. Approximately 200 new reading practice quizzes are added to the programme every month.





# What incentives are there?

- At Cardinal Newman we like to celebrate success. 100% quiz results are rewarded with certificates which are proudly displayed on the 100 club board in the library.
- Those students and classes who make the most progress are also rewarded. In the past, students have been awarded Kindles or even celebrated with whole class trips to attractions like Warner Bros Studios.
- Of course the biggest incentive is the opportunity for your child to thrive in their studies at school. It is recommended that students are free readers (level 6+) by year 11 so that they are able to fully access their GCSE exam papers.