



## Reading Star Challenge KS2 23 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This year we are really excited to introduce the Reading Star Challenge across the school. This is a new way for children to engage with their reading at home and enjoy the world of books. Rather than simply recording what they are reading and when they are reading in their reading diaries as we have done previously, each child will be given their own star journal. Their star journal will contain lots of different challenges, and rewards them for reading a range of different types of book as well as encouraging them to read as regularly as possible. As they complete these different challenges, they will be earn varying amounts of stars which they will continue to collect throughout the year. Children will be awarded with certificates and special badges to mark their achievements when they reach different amounts of star goals.

Below is a short summary of the main ways that children can earn their stars:

1. **Reading Regularly** – We will be encouraging the children to read as often as possible at home and the more often they read, the more stars they'll earn.
2. **Completing Books** – We want the children to enjoy as many books as possible each year and learn the value of sticking with a book through to the end. There is a section for fiction (stories) and a section for non-fiction (informational) books.
3. **Reading Widely Bingo** – Over the year we want to encourage the children to try out lots of different styles of books.
4. **Reading Challenges** – There are many different creative activities that the children can do at home in response to what they are reading. They should complete these activities within the journal itself.

Here is a video link to watch Mrs Sessions introducing the journals to the pupils, which gives further guidance on how the journals will work...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXwTpNgbAIU>

Teachers will award the stars when looking through the journals and we have set the children the target of earning at least 12 stars every half term. This can be done by using a combination of the points above. A few of the sections ask for parent/carer initials just to confirm what your child has been reading and doing.

One of the first tasks the children will be set as homework will be to cover their Reading Star Journal so that it is unique and special to them. The children will be expected to bring the journal into school everyday and take it home every night, just like their previous reading diaries. Reading journals will be checked once a week by teachers so that children can share their challenges with pride and receive their stars.



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Having the opportunity to read aloud to an adult is really valuable so may we encourage you to find as many opportunities as possible throughout the week to listen to your child read and encourage them to have a go at the various star challenges.

If you have any questions about the journals and the changes to home reading, please do ask, we'd love to help.

Kind Regards

Mrs K Sessions

English Leader



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