

JH/DE 29 January 20201

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may be aware that your child currently has access to a programme called Accelerated Reader while they are in Year 7 and Year 8 at Dene Magna. At the beginning of each term students would normally take a STAR reading test. This would measure their reading age and give them a suggested ability range of books that would be suitable for them (also known as an ATOS book score). Students are able to track their reading progress across the year and take quizzes on books they have recently read to test themselves.

As we are now learning remotely, we are going to be asking students to complete these tests from home in the next few weeks so we can continue to track their reading progress and offer the correct level of support or challenge. When your child is completing this test it is best that they complete it in a quiet environment, where possible, to allow them to focus on the extracts they will need to read.

Once we have the information from the tests, your child will be able to use Accelerated Reader to take quizzes on books they have recently read. Every quiz entry will enter them into our termly competitions and earn house points. We've given out some pretty impressive prizes in the past - including Amazon kindles and Fire tablets - so it's well worth your son/daughter taking part.

Accelerated Reader login details

Your child should be aware of their login details as they've used Accelerated Reader in school before. Your son/daughter needs to access the link through the Dene Magna website. However, if they need a reminder, their login details are as follows:

Username: first part of their email address before the @denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk

Password: Password1

The password can be changed if they choose to but they would need to make it something memorable.

Home Connect

In order to keep track of your child's reading at home, we have recently set up Home Connect. This will allow you to see what progress your child is making and what books they have been reading.

Mitcheldean, Gloucestershire, GL17 0DU Tel: 01594 542370 Sixth Form: 01594 838549 website: www.denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk email: reception@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk

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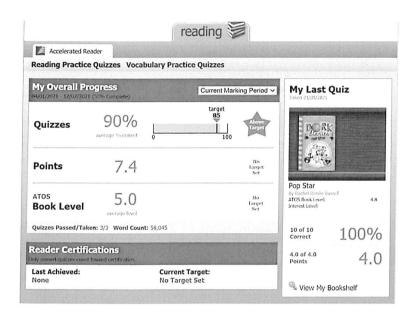


To set up Home Connect:

You can log in to Renaissance Home Connect from any computer with an Internet connection and compatible browser. For a list of compatible browsers, type the following URL in any browser: http://support.renlearn.com/techkb/techkb/10624292e.asp

If you'd like to receive emails showing your student's quiz or test results, click the Email Setup link in Renaissance Home Connect and follow the directions.

An example of a Home Connect is shown below:

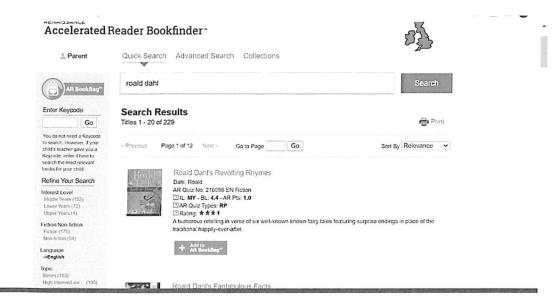


Supporting reading at home and MyOn access

As well as access to Accelerated Reader, your child will also have access to an online library called MyON. You can access a large range of digital books and take Accelerated Reader quizzes on the vast majority of these.

Furthermore, if you'd like to check the difficulty of books that you already have at home to see if they are suitable for your child, you can use AR bookfinder: https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx?RedirectURL=%2fdefault.aspx.

You can search for a book you already have to find the difficulty level. An example shown below:



MyOn login details

These are slightly different for MyOn:

Username: first part of their email address before the @denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk

Password: hello20!

Again, they can change these details if they wish but they will need to make it a memorable password.

What are the benefits of using Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader quizzes help us as teachers to track reading progress and provide additional support for students who need a bit of extra help with their reading or need a bit of extra challenge.

As always we appreciate the support from parents and carers and if you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact me: j.hassell@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk.

Thanks for your continued support - stay safe!

Miss Hassell Teacher of English