



Accelerated Reader: Information for First Grade Parents

At All Saints', we believe reading is a life skill and that the ability to read fluently will prepare your child for the challenges he/she will encounter throughout life.




Accelerated Reader, or A.R., is a fun, rewarding program that is designed to encourage reading. It supplements, not replaces, our Open Court Reading Curriculum.

First graders will begin the program the third nine weeks of school.

What A.R. is and how it works:

It is a noncompetitive, individualized computerized reading management program that allows students to take tests on books they have read. The students choose from books on our A.R. list and read at their own pace. Each book has a point value assigned to it based on its level of difficulty. Upon completion of a book, the student takes a computerized test and points are earned based on the number of questions they answered correctly.

Methods by which A.R. books may be read:

-  The student reads the book alone.
-  The parent reads or shares in the reading of the book.
-  The student listens to a book read by the teacher to the class.

How to identify A.R. books:

In ASEDS Library:

The books in our library that have tests available on the A.R. system have color-coded dots on their spines. Each color represents a different grade level.

Most first graders should be TESTING on books that have bright green or blue dots. These books should be fairly easy to read so that they are fairly easy to test on.

There is a notebook that stays in the library that has a complete list of all the tests we own. There is also a copy available in the main office that can be checked-out and copied.

On the ASEDs website (www.allsaintsepiscopaldayschool.com): There is a list of some (several thousand) of the A.R. tests we own; however the list on the ASEDs website is 3 years old. We are unable to update it at this time due to technical issues.

In the community: The complete list is also available at Books-a-million, Barnes and Noble, the Florence County Public Library (main branch), and the Darlington County Public Library (main branch).

NOTE: While All Saints' makes every effort to have a wide variety of books and AR tests available, there will certainly be books and tests that we do not have. Parents have the option to purchase individual AR tests if they so choose. Forms and contact information are available in the main office.

Taking the A.R. Test:

All tests are taken in the students' classrooms. The students are given an opportunity to take a test each day.

Students are not to receive help from friends, parents, or teachers when taking A.R. tests.

IMPORTANT: Once a student has tested on a book, he/she is never allowed to test on that book again at All Saints' (hence the reason we encourage the bright green/blue dots first).

A.R. Reading Requirements for First Grade:


Students should test on the following:


0.5 point books until they have attained 10 points

0.5 point books or above after reaching 10 points

Recognition during A. R. Spirit Day:

First grade students are recognized during Spirit Day when they have reached the following milestones:

 5 points = A.R. Sticker

 10 points = A.R. Pencil

- 📖 15 points = A.R. Bookmark
- 📖 25 points = A.R. Button
- 📖 50-75 points = A.R. Ribbon
- 📖 100 points = A.R. T-shirt

A.R. Spirit Day Dates: (8:10 A.M. in the Parish Hall)
February 1st, February 29th, March 28th, April 11th, May 2nd, May 23rd

Qualifying for End of Year Swim Party:
50 points by May 20, 2008

Last Day to Take A.R. Tests for the 2007-2008 School Year:
May 22, 2008

Contacts:

Mrs. Mahoney or Mrs. Mullins:
Questions and/or concerns regarding your child's A.R. records, testing, performance, etc.

Mrs. Garland:
Questions regarding availability of A.R. books and tests

Mrs. Leigh King and Mrs. Tami Mayhugh, Parent Guild Representatives:
Questions regarding Spirit Day and the end of the year swim party details

Mrs. Debbie Harwell (ASEDS parent):
Questions regarding ordering A.R. tests we don't currently have