

# ST MARY'S CE(C) FIRST SCHOOL

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Ref: CS/AP

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Dear parents,

Please find included in this pack some information and updates for Year 3 and 4 pupils.

## **TT rockstars**

As you will be aware, pupils in Year 3 and 4 have the opportunity to use Times Table Rockstars (TT Rockstars) to develop the accuracy and recall speed of their times tables. I have included a parent handbook and a letter which provides you with more information about this very popular and effective program. Please support us by encouraging your child to access this online program as regularly as possible. The attached information provides further details about how you might organise this for best effect.

## **Accelerated Reader**

In addition, pupils in Years 3 and 4 have each been issued with a new reading book as part of our recently introduced accelerated reader scheme. Accelerated Reader is a powerful tool for monitoring and managing independent reading practice and motivating the children to read for pleasure. At this stage, we have tested your child and provided them with a score which represents their own personal reading age. This falls within a band called the Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD). Your child may choose any book from within their ZPD and these have been colour coded in the school library. After reading a book, your child can take a quiz (in school) to demonstrate their understanding of the book and earn points. We will be introducing several 'point' and 'word' based incentives to encourage the children to participate over the course of the year. Further information will follow. Please also find attached a parent information sheet which provides some further details of the scheme.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Stanford and Miss Whittingham