

## Read all about it



*Emmanuel CE Middle School launches its new Accelerated Reader programme. Pictured years 5 and 6 pupils with Head of School, Rob Christopher (left), Head of English, Jerry Brenton (centre), and librarian Emma Shelley (right).*

A Dorset school has launched a new initiative to accelerate the reading prowess of its pupils.

Emmanuel CE Middle School in Verwood has opened a new chapter with its new Accelerated Reader scheme for years five and six children.

Using an online programme called Star Reading the scheme sees youngsters participating in fun quizzes to test their knowledge of books they have read and earn reward points.

And now both parents and teachers can monitor their children's reading progress as they go up through the levels.

Head of English, Jerry Brenton, said: "We've launched our Accelerated Reader initiative to raise even further the progress of reading in school.

"We have already made significant improvements in our English Curriculum and end of KS2 SATS and we believe this scheme will boost that even more.

"It's fun, interactive and the online element also complements our very well-stocked library and also the wonderful resources at Verwood Library."

Emmanuel CE Middle School joined Wimborne Academy Trust in 2018 and this summer was praised by a SIAMS ((Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspector for undergoing a "transformational journey."

One of the key things noted by the inspector was the rising standards and rapid improvement in the school, particularly in Key Stage 2 results.

CEO of Wimborne Academy Trust, Liz West, said: "The Accelerated Reader scheme is another excellent example of the commitment from everyone at Emmanuel to get the very best out of their children.

"Reading is such an important skill to have because without it, it's impossible to reach your full potential in all other subjects.

"This scheme helps improve reading standards in a fun way that not only engages the children but also involves their parents as well."