

Accelerated Reader is a winner

ST JOHNS SENIOR SCHOOL, ENFIELD

Do you want to know how to motivate and dramatically increase pupils' reading and appreciation of books?

"Yes, how? This has been my number one problem ever since becoming a teacher," says Mr Andrew Tardios, Headmaster, from St Johns Senior School, in Enfield, London. He goes on to say, "In my own youth, reading had little competition. We could either watch Rag Tag and Bobtail, or Bill and Ben, the flowerpot men on a two-channel TV. Today TV and computer games are big time! Both exercise a truly major influence in our children's lives and getting many of them to read is so difficult. Now the computer software developed by Renaissance Learning has come to the rescue!"

Accelerated Reader produced by Renaissance Learning, has helped pupils across the UK read more and better. The pupil reads a book from the school library, takes a quiz on the computer and both pupil and teacher gets the computer analysis of how well the book was read.

Will it work?

Mr Tardios says, "Well, this is what I wanted to find out. On Christmas day, my unsuspecting niece (11 years old) and nephew (8 years old) came to visit. After dinner I persuaded them to take one of the quizzes. They both choose 'Alice in wonderland', a book they had just read."

"Both seemed to enjoy it, but I knew Accelerated Reader was going to be a winner when my nephew asked, and persisted in asking, if he could do some more."

"Hopefully, all my pupils feel this way. By way of encouragement I shall devise a system of rewards for those who make the most of this opportunity to enter the world of books."