

## Accelerating Reading



### Spotlight on reading

"Reading helps me escape into the author's world," said a former Year 11 pupil as she pondered the central role the school library played during her time at Compass. We agree! Reading is truly a gateway to other worlds, minds and within these, further learning. So I am delighted to see our pupils embracing Accelerated Reader and Bedrock programmes to ensure they are reading a diverse range of texts, genres and at the right level.

### CycleWorks gets Year 7 hands on!

We are passionate about providing our pupils with experiences that transcend the curriculum. Year 7s were thoroughly engaged in their cycle repair workshop that saw them getting hands-on to fix brakes, punctures and all those things that go annoyingly wrong on our two wheels. Watch this space for what could be a fantastic new enrichment club!

### Long to reign over us

Sunday marked Accession Day. The 70th anniversary of Her Majesty's reign and the start of her Platinum Jubilee year. As people from all walks of life paid tribute, we can barely grasp what has been a truly remarkable life, from her accession at the age of 25 to present. At the age of 95, she is more popular than ever, embodying our nation's values and so often capturing the public mood as she did sitting alone at Prince Philip's funeral. She remains the figurehead of our country and we wish her good health in this unique jubilee year.

### Attendance Matters

It's been a challenging last 2 years, which have impacted on pupils' access to learning. Attendance to school matters more than ever, enabling pupils to achieve their potential and instilling positive habits that will last a lifetime. Many of our pupils, like others across the country, achieve 100% attendance. This means over 5 years, they get half a year more education than a child on 90% and 3 months more than a child on 95%.

I urge parents and carers to be the difference your child needs you to be, by ensuring they attend school every day.

Mr Huntley.

Please see links to our [Twitter](#), [Compass School Website](#) and [Facebook](#).

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# Spotlight on Accelerated Reader



## The Accelerated Reader Program

In September, we launched the Accelerated Reader program here at Compass. All pupils began by sitting a reading test that determined their reading age. This then assigned them their ZPD, which is the level of books that they should be reading to maximise their reading skills. When pupils have read a book, they log on to the system to take a quiz. If they score 80% or above, they receive a stamp in their reading passport and are awarded a prize for every 5 quizzes passed.

We know that reading is the key that will unlock success for our pupils; GCSE papers are written to a reading age of 15.5 years and we need our pupils to be reading at that age and beyond by the time they sit those all-important papers!

We are really proud to say that the results are already incredibly positive, with 60% of pupils making improvements to their reading age and the percentage of quizzes being passed increasing week on week.

## How can you help at home?

Parental support is vital when it comes to encouraging reading and reinforcing the benefits that a high reading age brings. There are a number of things that you can do at home to support your child:

- Ask them about the book that they are currently reading
- Ask them to read to you a section of their book
- Use the subtitles function (closed caption) on your TV to make viewing educational!
- Have books at home (we can help with this if this is something you struggle with)
- Encourage them to take a quiz as soon as they have finished their book
- Encourage daily reading as part of their homework routine
- Join your local library

And remember, your child's English teacher will be more than happy to offer more ideas and support - just send them a message on Class Charts.

# Spotlight on Bedrock Vocabulary



## Bedrock Vocabulary

Bedrock Vocabulary has a simple mission: to narrow the word gap that exists between different groups of pupils and improve outcomes across the curriculum for all. Here at Compass, we know that our pupils need access to a high-level vocabulary and so we have made the investment in Bedrock for all pupils.

The program, which encourages reading and teaches the tier-2 vocabulary that pupils need in order to be successful, was launched with pupils last November. Set as a weekly homework by the English department, pupils are expected to earn a minimum of 20 points per week (though some are earning many, many more!)

During a Bedrock session, pupils are encouraged to practise their reading, writing and spelling through a range of fun and interactive activities. They are tested on their ability to use the key words that they have been using in context and, when they show that they have mastered these words, they will move up a block.

Although we are still in the early stages of using the program, the results have been impressive: on average, our pupils are making an 18% improvement in their attainment, which is higher than the national average!

Have a look at the word lists below to see some of the vocabulary our pupils have been learning. Can you spot any words that they have been using at home?

Word Trends: 50% of students who are learning or have learned the same words within a block					
Block 5	Block 6	Block 7	Block 8/9	Block 10/11	Block 12
folklore frontier peer manufacture portion evident frantic generosity meadow orchard buoyant essential hitch temperate address considerable modest noble valiant venture bachelor native peculiar	companion revert exhibit suffix visual pasture soar solitary compensate illuminate pardon seldom sparse parched chore complex craze engrossing fad hefty impression innovative international methodically	dwelt accommodate barren blunder conspicuous deluge duration extract meagre objective innovation knack negotiate unique conclude cumulative discretion elude inept painstaking apprehensive conform cordial decontextualise	anarchy dialect formidable introduce languish blasé crucial deploy fend stamina advocate awry examine phenomenon trace connoisseur divisive ardent avid allot assimilate contend decree era	dwindle invigorate meticulous disseminate garrulous inadvertent complacent devoid innocuous ramification yield cursory fluctuate respective conversely lexicon rapport	ablution culminate diaspora empirical exiguous idiosyncrasy convalesce execrable exigent nonpareil proclivity subsidise unscrupulous nascent inure alacrity compunction elephantine emissary furtive irreverent maudlin neophyte obfuscate

# Positive Power!

Congratulations to our pupils who have achieved an incredible total of positives. Even with half-term around the corner, pupils are continuing to demonstrate our Compass values on a daily basis and are reaping the positive benefits - well done, everyone!



We earned an incredible number of positives!

# 9898!

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## Stars of the week – KS3

Rachael Bamgbose	57
Aaminah Abioloa	52
Areen Ahmed	51

Jessica Pope-Dwan	54
Daniela Odogwu	45
Cade Bucknall	43



Remember to  
update your  
LFT display!

Mohamed Mohamed	43
Greta Pezzolato	39
Abigail Gibbs	35

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## Stars of the week – KS4

Simon Mathis	65
Alfie Hardiman	50
Joao Trenta	40

Mariam Ajayi	45
Frankie Hyam	43
Leon Leach	42



Remember to  
update your  
LFT display!

Well done, everyone!



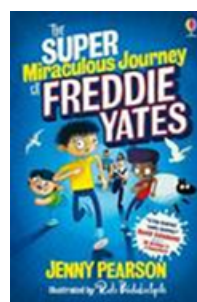
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# What's been happening?

## Our Bookbuzz Books Arrived!



At the start of the academic year, pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 took part in the Bookbuzz program which enabled them to select a brand new book to take home! These fabulous books have finally arrived and have been making their way to their new owners in library lessons. Pupils were really excited to receive their books and one even asked 'can I read this at break time?'. The answer was, of course, a resounding **yes!**



## Attendance Matters

We know that great attendance is the single largest contributor to pupils' success. We appreciate your support in ensuring that pupils are in school, every day, working with our fantastic teachers towards that destination to which they aspire.

Our weekly attendance league helps to encourage pupils to keep their attendance high and, every Friday during our weekly celebration, the position of each LFT in the league is revealed. Check out this week's results below!

ATTENDANCE LEAGUE!		
		
		
1	11C2	34
2	10C4	31
3	9C3	21
4	7C4	20
5	8C2	20

1	7C2	18
2	11C3	17
3	10C3	16
4	10C2	16
5	8C3	16
6	9C1	16

1	9C2	15
2	11C1	15
3	8C1	14
4	7C1	1
5		
6		



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## Twelfth Night

We are delighted to be taking part in the Shakespeare Schools Festival this year and pupils have been busy rehearsing their chosen play, Twelfth Night.

Pupils will perform at Greenwich Theatre on February 22nd and, as this is one of Shakespeare's most hilarious comedies, the venue is sure to be filled with laughter.

Details will be coming soon on how you can buy tickets to watch this debut performance.

## Year 7 Make Monsters!

This year, we introduced Design and Technology into our curriculum and Year 7 have thrown themselves into this new subject!

Pupils started working on their plush toys a long time ago, making sure that they planned every aspect of their product.

I'm sure you agree, the finished products are scarily good!



## Football Fanatics

As well as timetabled enrichment sessions as part of the school day, Ballers Academy also work with our pupils after school on their skills!

These sessions are really popular and the number of pupils attending is growing each week.

Please speak to Mr Flowers if you would like to attend.