

Every child will learn to read and love to read. We read as a reader, we read as a writer and we read for pleasure.



We are incredibly excited to officially announce the launch of two new English challenges: #WATaPoet and #WATaSpeller and two new badges to aim for. Every child in every year group can achieve these two badges every year. Very exciting!

## <u>#WATaPoet</u>

The #WATaPoet challenge is a way to encourage our pupils to learn a set of classic poems by heart. Not only will this develop their knowledge of classic poetry, structures and language, but it will also help our learners to develop their speech and language skills as they will be required to memorise and articulate the poems for their year group clearly in order to achieve their #WATaPoet badge.

The National Curriculum (2014) states that 'Spoken language underpins the development of reading and writing. The quality and variety of language that pupils hear and speak are vital for developing their vocabulary and grammar and their understanding for reading and writing.' We see the #WATaPoet challenge as a creative way to incentivise our learners to develop their spoken language.



To achieve a #WATaPoet badge, the children will need to learn by heart the poems set for their year group and then recite them to a teacher. They do not need to be learnt all at once but can be spaced throughout the year.

## <u>#WATaSpeller</u>

Our #WATaSpeller challenge encourages our pupils to learn the spellings stipulated in the National Curriculum (2014) for their year group.

To achieve a #WATaSpeller badge, the children will need to be able to read the words and learn the spellings for their year group. They do not need to be learnt all at once but can be spaced throughout the year, using each 'Spelling Rocket' as a guide.



Both the <u>Spelling Rockets</u> and the <u>poems</u> for your child's year group can be found on the school website.



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Good luck!