



The Great Scotforth Karate Reading Challenge

Introducing the Great Scotforth Karate Reading Challenge!



We want **every** child at Scotforth to love reading and we know that regular reading is the most important thing children can do to make good progress through school.

There is a positive relationship between reading frequency, reading enjoyment and attainment (Clark and Douglas 2011). On top of that, reading for pleasure is great fun, can increase empathy, improve relationships with others, reduce the symptoms of depression and improve wellbeing throughout life! (The Reading Agency 2015).

What's not to love about it?! 😊😊😊

The **Great Scotforth Karate Reading Challenge** is our exciting way of encouraging the children to read **at home** every day. Following the coloured belt system in Karate, the children will receive a new coloured wristband when they have achieved a certain number of reads, written and signed by parents, in their reading record. **They will need to return the band** when they go up to a new level. See below for what constitutes a "read" at each age group.

The 2026-27 challenge will start on **MONDAY 7th September so this counts as DAY 1**. The band requirements are:

White – 15 reads	Yellow – 30 reads	Orange – 50 reads
Green – 70 reads	Blue – 95 reads	Purple – 125 reads
Red – 160 reads	Brown – 200 reads	!!!Black!!! – 250 reads

Even if they have some days off (!) the children should still have plenty of time to achieve the black level by the end of the school year. We will revert back to working towards white for every child each September but children will also be able to wear their highest band from the previous year alongside it should they so wish.

What counts as a "Read"?

<u>Foundation Stage and Year 1</u> - Sharing a book with an adult at home counts as "a read". - This could be your phonic reading book/sound card (once they have received these in Reception), your "Reading for Pleasure" book, or sharing a bedtime story. - An adult must sign your reading record for each read. Obviously any comments are welcome too! - Only one read per day counts. Please only return the reading record on the allocated change day each week for your child (according to the class teachers). We cannot guarantee that we can check records or change book folders returned on a different day.	<u>Year 2</u> - Sharing a book with an adult at home counts as "a read". - This must be your home school reader book (usually your phonic band book) - An adult must sign your reading record for each read. Obviously any comments are welcome too! - Only one read per day counts. Children are responsible to hand in their reading record when they are at the required number of parent signatures for each karate read levels (see below). Teachers/TAs will check reading records at other times and they need to be in school every day.
<u>Years 3 and 4</u> - Sharing a book with an adult at home for at least 15 minutes counts as "a read". - This could be your school reading book, library book or a book from home. - An adult must sign your reading record for each read. - Only one read per day counts. - If you are a free reader, you can read to yourself for at least 15 minutes but an adult must sign for it to count as a read. Children are responsible to hand in their reading record when they have achieved the required number of adult signatures for each karate read levels. Teachers/TAs may well check reading records at other times so they should be in school daily.	<u>Years 5 and 6</u> See separate Y5/6 reading challenge sheet.