

ST LEVAN SCHOOL

READING KARATE

Get ready to read like a master!

Just like the Japanese Martial Art, Reading Karate is about practising a skill and working your way up through a series of bands/belts. This will encourage and inspire your child to read regularly at home helping them to achieve all the different coloured wristbands. It's going to be great fun, boosting your child's self-esteem as a reader and developing their reading skills and strategies.

BANDS	
Number of Reads	Coloured Wristband
15	White
30	Yellow
45	Orange
60	Green
80	Blue
100	Purple
120	Brown
150	Red
180	Black

What counts as a read: - 4 pages and 3 follow up questions using a school reading book
- A whole book read to your child, the book must be one that your child could not read alone

- ❖ Parents and children will need to write their reads into their reading diary and it will be checked in school and counted up
- ❖ Only 1 read will be counted per day
- ❖ Parents MUST sign each read in the reading diary for it to count as a read

When your child has achieved 15 reads they will need to show their reading diary to the class teacher or TA. Your child will then be presented with a white wristband in celebration assembly. When they have read a further 15 times they will need to show their reading diary to the class teacher or TA again, then the teacher will swap the white wristband for a yellow one. This will continue until your child achieves their black wristband and becomes a **Reading Karate Master**- they then get to keep their black wristband! See below for the meaning of the colours as explained by the World Martial Arts Centre.

There is no cost for this new reading incentive scheme, but we may ask for a small donation should bands get lost.

Happy Reading Karate Kids!

Meaning of the Colours as Explained by World Martial Arts Centre

During the period of the Second World War, the belts were simply dyed to a darker shade of colour, for indication of moving ahead with the ranking system of karate expertise. Dying the belt, which may be one tone darker than before, meant that the student has successfully developed adequate karate tactics in order to advance onto a higher degree.

- **White belt:** A white belt symbolizes the birth of a new life. Or a new seed planted in the snow. It signifies the ability of the student for undertaking a new challenge in life in terms of acquiring karate skills.
- **Yellow belt:** yellow belt depicts the first rays of sunlight. It symbolizes the student's mind, which is now more open to following instructions.
- **Orange belt:** orange belt represents the expansion of sunrays of the earth. It shows how the student's knowledge is expanding.
- **Green belt:** green belt symbolizes the penetrating roots and stems of the plant reaching towards the sun. It also indicates development of skills and techniques.
- **Blue belt:** blue belt signifies the tallness and expansion of the plant towards the blue sky. In a student, it showcases his depth in skilful knowledge and understanding.
- **Purple belt:** the purple belt signifies that the student is moving towards the acquisition of a black belt through a strong dedication.
- **Brown belt:** brown belt represents the maturity level in the student. It is symbolized as a plant, which has grown to a full bloom and ready to be harvested.
- **Red belt:** the red belt signifies depth of knowledge and abilities that have been conserved in the student's mind.
- **Black belt:** black belt indicates the dark shadows behind the light of the sun. It indicates an indispensable treasure of knowledge and enlightenment within the student's mind.