

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Diocese of Clifton

Inspiring everyone to REACH through
Faith, Hope, and Love



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Headteacher: Dr Ewan Johnson

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Dear Parents and Carers,

One of many exciting first steps this week is that your child has now received a reading diary and a book to take home. We hope you will be able to share stories and reading with them from this point on.

The book all children have brought home this week will not have any words in it. These books are designed to help children become familiar with the format of a book and to develop important early reading skills. As you share the book together, you could ask your child questions about the pictures and what they think might be happening. Give them time to ask their own questions too. You might like to predict what could happen on the next page or discuss what some of the characters might be saying or thinking.

Over the next few weeks, children will gradually begin bringing home a decodable reading book to read with you. We will shortly be starting our phonics teaching and the books your child receives will carefully match the sounds they have already learned in school. Please do not worry if your child does not receive a decodable reading book immediately. We want all children to be around 90% confident with the sounds and words in a book before taking it home so that they can experience success and develop confidence as readers.

I will be explaining how to support your child with reading and decoding words at our EYFS Phonics Evening on 22nd September at 6.30pm. I will be able to explain this in greater detail then, and answer any questions you may have.

Your child has also received a reading diary. Please use this diary to record when you have read with your child at home. The children at St Joseph's love collecting reading points and earning their bookworm badges!

Books and reading diaries will be collected every Wednesday to be checked and changed. Children can earn reading points by reading on five separate days during the week and having these recorded in their diary. Of course, reading more than this would be fantastic and is always encouraged!

I will cover our reading reward system in more detail during the Phonics Evening, and I hope to see many of you there.

Thank you for your support in helping your child develop a love of reading.

Kind regards,

Miss Read

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Little Way Catholic
Educational Trust

