



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Diocese of Clifton

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through
Faith, Hope, and Love



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Dear Parents and Carers

We are excited to let you know that our new reading books are going into classrooms this week!

As you know, keeping up to date with high-quality texts for children is no mean feat – and often costly. Thanks to the generous support of our PTA, we have been able to purchase a brand-new box of 50 high-quality books for every class, and a fantastic selection of more progressive titles for our Key Stage 2 children following the Big Cat Scheme. A huge thank you to the PTA for making this possible – we are so grateful for your ongoing support. We'd also like to say a special thank you to Nona Rushton, who kindly stamped and prepared all the new books – a big job, and very much appreciated!

From this week onwards, all children in **Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6)** will be bringing home **two reading books**:

1. A book from the **Collins Big Cat reading scheme**, which provides a structured and engaging approach to reading development.
2. A **high-quality text**, carefully selected to be **age-appropriate and enriching** for their year group.

The **Big Cat scheme** uses the **book band system** with even finer steps in Key Stage 2. It offers:

- A dual-banded approach to match both **reading ability** and **age-appropriate interests**
- Carefully levelled books that support **reading fluency, stamina, and confidence**
- A broad range of **text types and genres**, helping to build depth and breadth in reading

The **high-quality texts** are designed to challenge and inspire, giving children the chance to explore stories and characters that reflect a rich reading experience beyond structured schemes.

Please support us by encouraging your child to read at home, and by ensuring that both books are looked after and returned to school in good condition.

We're really looking forward to seeing the children's enthusiasm grow as they dive into these new books. Thank you, as always, for your continued support in fostering a love of reading at home.

Warm regards

Mrs Knight (Reading and Writing Lead)

G:Winword/PARENTS/Sept 25/New books