



## ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Archdiocese of Birmingham

Principal: Mr A Carry

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is wonderful to have all the children back in school and see their smiling faces again. They have all been greatly missed and we are enjoying being back in class and re-starting our learning journeys together.

A key part of our learning is, of course, reading. Today we are sending home your child's first reading book of the new school year. However, as with many things at the moment, our arrangements for school reading books, and your child's reading for pleasure more generally, are somewhat different.

Safely and appropriately providing school reading books in the current Covid-19 context means we need to introduce new arrangements where books are provided and then returned on two set 'book swap' days each week: **Monday and Thursday**. For example, if a reading book is provided on a Monday it is to be returned and swapped for a different book on the following Thursday. This will ensure all books are quarantined for at least 3 days before being provided to another child. Books will not be changed on any other day.

Like most parents, you are probably looking for ways to encourage your child to read more. You know that reading for fun is a wonderful activity that contributes to overall reading ability and to success in school. So, if your child completes their reading book before the next 'swap day' it is perfectly fine for them to read the book again. You can never read a book too many times. Each time your child gains new knowledge and builds fluency, speed and accuracy.

It would be great if they also want to read other books and to support you to choose and access books that are at an appropriate reading level for your child we suggest resources such as Oxford Owl for Home (<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/>) where there is a free eBook library.

Working together we will continue to develop your child's reading skills and their desire to read for pleasure more generally.

We thank you in advance for your help and co-operation.

Kind regards,

Mrs Michele Riley  
KS1 Lead/ English Coordinator  
English Co-ordinator

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