



ST JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Part of the Edmund Rice Family

4th September 2020

Dear Parent,

Your child has received a new Reading Record Diary this week. As you know, at this school we place great importance in reading. Reading is a gift that we can give to our children and we want to encourage a love for books and other important associated skills of understanding the text, listening, speaking and writing fluently. We have a wide selection of books. Your child will be bringing home a reading book every day and your support in listening to your child read, discussing the book and commenting on the reading is important as your child will use these ideas at school. If your child is in the upper Prep and is already on Free Readers we would still like them to use this new tool, engaging in the tasks and logging the books that they have chosen.

The diary is a shared home-school record that will allow engagement and communication between us. It gives us both an opportunity to work together to develop this joy of reading.

You can help your child in many ways with their reading:

- Choose a quiet time to relax and share a story together.
- Make comparisons between events in the story and real-life family experiences.
- Allow your child to use the pictures as clues.
- Discuss the text, vocabulary, exchange ideas and feelings.
- ABOVE ALL, remember reading should be fun- not a test of how many words or books your child can read.

Discussion of the text may include the following suggestions:

- Look at the front cover. What do you think the story is about?
- Does the front cover make you want to read the book?
- What do the pictures tell us?
- What do you think will happen next? Why?
- What was the character feeling? Why?
- Did you enjoy that part of the story? Why?

These questions and more are contained in your child's **new Reading Record Diary**. The Learning Tools within the diary will play a major part in the dialogue with your child. The focus is on understanding and enjoyment.

We will enjoy reading your feedback and we will value your comments, responding to them in this diary.

If you have any questions, then please do get in touch with your child's form teacher or myself.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Parrish
Literacy Co-ordinator

Rookery Lane, Trent Vale, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire. ST4 5RF

Telephone: 01782 417533

www.stjosephsprepschool.co.uk
enquiries@stjosephsprepschool.co.uk