St Joseph's Camberwell Catholic Schools' Federation

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Executive Headteacher: *Ms. D. Jameson*
Interim Head of Schools: *Mrs T. Mokogwu*

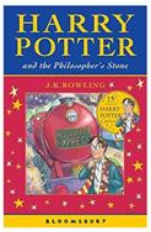
Monday 18th September 2023

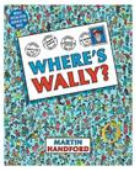
Dear Parents and Carers,

Have you ever stopped to think how important it is for your child to become a confident reader? Even if your child prefers other subjects like science, history or computing, think how much easier it is for them to understand written instructions and information in those subjects if they can read quickly with good understanding. Reading is at the heart of our curriculum and this year we are making reading for pleasure a priority. To kick start the year there will be a special Book Week from Monday 25th to Friday 29th September. As usual there will be several competitions and activities for your child to enjoy, including visits to the local library.

Dressing Up

As you know, your children love dressing up as their favourite book characters! Remember that costumes don't need to be elaborate or complicated- it's all about joining in and having fun. Dressing up day will be on **Thursday 28th September.** Keep it simple.





Reading Champions

Each class will be nominating a Reading Champion during Book Week. These children will remain Reading Champion for the year and be responsible for helping to make big decisions about reading at St Joseph's. If your child expresses an interest in this, please help them to prepare their manifesto as they will need to present this in front of their class to gain their votes.

Class Book Review Scrap Books: an activity for the whole year.

These scrapbooks will work rather like the class prayer books. Each week a pupil will be chosen to take the book home and create a page about a book they have recently read and enjoyed. The reviews will then be shared with others in the class. Please support your child when it's their turn to bring the book home.

Redesign a book cover- Family Challenge!

What's your favourite book? Perhaps Harry Potter or something by Jacqueline Wilson or Nadia Shireen? Do you think Tom Gates is funny or Diary of a Wimpy Kid? Perhaps Julia Donaldson is your favourite author? How about Captain Underpants or How to Train Your Dragon?

-Whatever your choice, for our September Book Week competition we are asking you to re-design the cover of your favourite book. Re- design means you don't just copy the front cover. You imagine you are the illustrator and you are drawing your own cover with your own ideas about the story and characters.

- If you're stuck for ideas, you can always draw your favourite part of the story!

-Remember you are drawing the front cover so you will need to include the title of the book and the name of the author.

-Remember your design will need to be clear and neat. There will be a prize for the best design.

Invitation to Parents:

We are extending an invitation to you all during Book Week. We would love you to be brave and volunteer to read a short story or poem to your child's class! This only needs to be for 10 minutes or so, but it's really inspiring to the children when they see their parents are readers too. Please chat to your child's teacher to arrange a time to suit you both.

As usual, we'd like to thank you for all your support.

K McDuff, S Kilbey and A Zenasni

English Team