St Joseph's Camberwell Catholic Schools' Federation

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

9th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception! I hope that your children are settling in well and that you are all getting into the 'swing' of school life. I would like to share some of our routines and policies that we have in place for Early Years here at St Joseph's. Over the coming half term, the teachers and teaching assistants will be observing the children, taking note of their learning styles and also their interests and preferred areas of learning. Our findings will form the basis of our planning for future learning.

Reading Diaries

Reading books and diaries will be sent home from Friday 30th September. We aim to read individually with each child once a week. Reading diaries and reading books must be in their book bags **EVERY DAY**. We will read with your child and comment on their progress and what they need to work on. Please read with your child each day for 10 minutes and sign/comment in their reading diary when you have done this. We will be also sending home key words each week for your child to learn. You could write them out as flashcards to encourage word recognition.

Library books

Each child is also encouraged to select a book from the school library each week to take home and share with you. Both classes will change their books on Fridays. Please ensure their library book is in their book bag on this day. We are looking for volunteers to come in and lead these library sessions in the afternoons so if you are able to make a regular commitment then we would love to hear from you. See Miss Crawford at the office please.

Uniform

Please can you make sure you have sewn your child's name in each piece of uniform as this gives you the best chance of redeeming items should they go missing. Pens do not last and need to be constantly re-written. The weather has been very warm and we have noticed that almost 2/3rds of the children **do not** have their names in their uniform! Please do not send your child to school wearing school shoes or trainers with laces **if they cannot tie these themselves.**

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has a named water bottle, preferably with a sports cap, that they bring into school each day. Please do not put these in their book bags as we have already had several accidents! Book bags are for books only.

Workshops

Please attend the workshops below these will be vital in helping you support your child as they begin their learning journey with us.

Tuesday 20th September	9am	**Welcome assembly for parents.**
Wednesday 14th September	3.30pm	**Reading and Phonics Meeting**
Tuesday 4th October	3.30 pm	**Writing Workshop**

Contributions

We are now collecting the contributions of £5 per term (£15 for the whole year) in order for us to be able to do lots of cooking and making of play dough and resources. Please can you pay this directly to the office each term or if you able to, in a lump sum of £15. Without these contributions we will struggle to be able to do these enriching activities which will enhance your child's education.

Many Thanks

Mrs Ioannou
Assistant Headteacher EYFS & KS1