



St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual Primary School

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Friday 21st October, 2016

Dear Parents,

I can't believe we have reached the end of the first half term at St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual School. It's been a busy and successful half term and we all want to thank you for your support for both the children and all the staff. This week we would like to say thank you particularly to all the parents who helped us walk to, and from, Church on Wednesday and to everyone who has kindly donated tissue boxes – we think we are stocked up for the winter now.

Your child is coming home with their “reading pack” today. This is a red or blue popper wallet containing their reading book and their reading record book. Please can you read your book a few times over the holidays and then write in your child's record book that they have read. Books will not be changed in school unless you have signed your child's record book. Books may have no words, in which case please help your child to retell the story using their own words. Other books have simple “cvc” (consonant, vowel, consonant) words that your child may need support sounding out and then blending together. For example, sound out s-i-t and then help your child to blend the word to finally read “sit”. They may talk about the actions that go with the letters, if you can reinforce this using the sheet that is also being emailed home that would be most helpful.

The EYFS team have also asked if you go on an autumn walk if you can keep an eye out for 2 pronged twigs (like the pictures below). If you spot them please could you bring them in after half term as the children will be completing weaving activities.



Also in your child's book bag today, you will find a “Star Moments” sheet for you to complete at any time. This is for any significant achievements your child has outside of school, for example: swimming badges, gym certificates, riding their bicycles etc.

Over half term please would you check your child's uniform to confirm everything belongs to your child and is named. Please would you also ensure that your child has the required items from the school uniform policy, particularly the school coat with the school crest, ready for winter? Also, parents with daughters please note that they should be wearing tights with their winter skirts or dresses and not leggings.

On PE Thursdays please ensure you have removed any earrings as these cannot be worn for PE. Please also note that children are not allowed any other jewellery in school at any time.

It was great to see so many of you at the first Parent, Teacher and Friend's Association (PTFA) meeting last night. We now welcome your nominations for the following committee members: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. These will then be elected at our next PTFA meeting on Thursday 3rd November at 6pm. If you were not able to come to the meeting you will be able to find a copy of the presentation and the downloaded nomination form on the PTFA page of our school website.

Over half term please could you ensure that you have ordered your child's school meals with The Pantry. You can order in advance, right up until Christmas. If you forget your log in or password, please do not create another user. Please contact The Pantry directly and they will reset or resend details for you. Many thanks for your ongoing support in this.

Whilst we know we have only just reached half term, we also know that Christmas is rapidly approaching and the following are important dates for your diaries:

Friday 9th December: School Festive Afternoon 2:30pm
Tuesday 13th December: 2pm Nativity Play Dress Rehearsal
(Grandparents / Younger Siblings welcome)
Wednesday 14th December: 2pm Nativity Play for parents (no children)
Monday 19th December: Charity Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 20th December: 9:15am Christmas Service in St John's Church
Wednesday 21st December: Term ends 1:30pm

At St. Jérôme C E Bilingual School we are always seeking to improve the quality of the education we provide and we are keen to hear your views about your first half term with us. It would really up us if you could please take a moment to complete our short survey (once per family). I would very much welcome your positive comments to share and encourage our staff team, likewise any constructive feedback you can offer us will help us to continually improve and develop. You can access our online survey by following the link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LXYLN93>

Finally, don't forget we have a staff training day on Monday 31st October. This means that school is closed for the children whilst we are working, but we will be open as usual and ready for the children on Tuesday 1st November.

Do contact me via the school office if you have any questions about life at St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual School.

We wish you all a very happy and restful half term holiday.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. E. Walton
Head of School

**It is our part to seek, His to grant what we ask;
Ours to make a beginning, His to bring it to completion;
Ours to offer what we can, His to finish what we cannot.
St. Jérôme (347-420AD)**