



St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Revd. Daniel Norris MBA NPQH
120 – 138 Station Road Harrow Middlesex HA1 2DJ
www.stjeromebilingual.org

Tel: 020 3019 6363 e-mail: office@stjeromebilingual.org



To All Parents / Carers
EYFS – Reception

18th September 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Your children have had an exciting two weeks and are now beginning to settle into life at St Jérôme school. We are certainly having lots of fun and the children are exploring their new environment and taking on new learning on a daily basis. As we don't have as much opportunity to chat with you regarding your child settling in, please do email if you have any worries or concerns and we will deal with them as soon as possible. Please be reassured if we have any concerns, we will contact you by phone.

School uniform is part of our school life and we appreciate how expensive it is for all parents. With this in mind, we have asked, repeatedly, that items of school clothing are named as this is the only way we can guarantee the safe return to your child. This should be as important to you as it is to us, so please do label everything. If your child comes home with someone else's belongings (very possible and often a daily occurrence in the first few weeks) please return them the next day. Thank you.

Collecting a child - if someone else is picking up your child we cannot release them unless permission has been given, please email the office with the name of the person and if possible, a photo of them. If there is a person who is going to regularly collect your child, as mentioned before, we would like a photograph of them to aid us in the safe keeping of your child.

Home learning – We will be sending out a small, red Phonics Book for your child to use regularly, full information on how to support your child is given on the inside front cover. Online reading books will mirror the phonemes (letter sounds) taught and as your child develops confidence with phonics, reading books will follow. Any questions regarding home learning or reading please do not hesitate to ask us via email.

Handwriting grip – Froggy legs

For children to correctly form their letters it is important that they develop an effective pencil grip. We encourage the children to use a tripod grip as demonstrated.



- The pencil is held between your thumb and index finger.
- It can be moved backwards and forwards using your 'froggy legs'.
- Now the second finger goes behind the pencil to give the frog a log to sit on.
- The last two fingers are then tucked away.

It is often very difficult to change a poor grip so please help your child to use this grip whenever they are using a pencil or colouring pencil. Larger barrelled pencils can help and triangular pencils also help to reinforce this grip.



Our school has subscribed to letterjoin which can support your child learning to write using a cursive font. <https://www.letterjoin.co.uk>

To access you will need to use:

Username: eg2121

Password: home

French learning - we are thrilled that our French speakers in reception, Madame Abousaada and Madame El Hakam have started speaking French with our pupils from day one for social and organisational interactions. They are also using lots of hand gestures and modelling to support the children's understanding. As the children learn French songs and discover French stories, we will be adding them to the Reception Pinterest boards https://www.pinterest.co.uk/s_jrme/2020-2021-reception-songs-and-stories/ for you to share with your child at home. Please remember to always supervise your child on devices that are online. There are already some songs and stories for you to discover on the Pinterest board and here is a wonderful collection of age appropriate audiobooks to discover https://www.pinterest.co.uk/s_jrme/histoires-french-stories-ebooks/.

Remember to continue speaking your home language with your child and we will always encourage our pupils to share their home language(s) and culture within our multilingual school.

Please remember that all drop offs and pick-ups from school for Reception classes are from the Main front entrance.

With best wishes from the Early Years Team