



Dear Parents/Carers,

This term we will be starting to use the *Read, Write Inc. Spelling* programme to teach children specific spellings to all year groups. We are trying hard to make spelling fun, enjoyable and interesting!

We will no longer give children weekly spellings or TRACKS words to learn. In the past many of our children have found memorising spelling for a test stressful or they have forgotten the spelling of the words immediately after the test. Therefore we have invested in a rigorous scheme that teaches children a method for working out how to spell any words which have regular patterns. There is also a focus on irregular spelling patterns which need to be memorised.

The spelling programme runs in two weekly sessions of approximately 30 minutes which comprise of teacher-led activities, paired work and independent activities.

All units follow the same format of fun activities, together with tips explaining when each spelling pattern is likely to be used.

Alongside this there is a Spelling Log where children can record the words they find difficult to spell. Because spelling is taught and rehearsed, children are no longer given lists of spellings to learn for a test. Assessment throughout a unit is ongoing and children will be logging spellings that they find difficult. More formal assessment of spelling takes place every 6 weeks.

Parents can help support their children by regularly practising the words in their child's spelling log which they should take home and return to school every day.

Please note:

The expectations for spelling are high in the 2016 curriculum. Children have been grouped according to our baseline assessments completed at the end of the Autumn Term.

If you have any questions regarding these changes do write a note in your child's link book.

E McGuigan

Headteacher