

September 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

I am writing to tell you about a new initiative we have begun, to make it easier for children to learn spellings skills and outline how you can help.

This year we are giving a special focus to the teaching of spelling across Key Stage 2.

Unlike times tables, which have a consistent pattern, English spellings follow a range of very different patterns which make them harder to learn. This is because modern English evolved from lots of different earlier languages and this makes it much more complex for the children.

To help the children's learning we have set up groupings across Key Stage 2 which are based on each child's current spelling level. On Mondays and Tuesdays your child will bring home a blue spelling book in which their spellings for the week will be written in the front. They must bring this book back each day and they will be tested on their weekly spellings on Wednesday.

Your help at home will be invaluable. Please encourage your child to learn their spellings weekly and also to revisit previously learned spellings so that the pattern and use of the word is constantly reinforced.

The weekly spellings will usually follow a pattern such as words containing tion, ture, etc.

It often helps children to break down large words into smaller parts and to use fun ways of remembering, for example: **does- dad often eats sweets, friend - i to the end** will be your friend, **believe-never believe a lie**.

**Enough** is a really tricky word so we make up a nonsense sentence that sticks in the mind- **every normal octopus understands german history; tion** is found at the end of some words (a suffix); we remember it, by saying, **Tesco is open now**.

If you would like further information or ideas to help, please contact the school.

Thank you in anticipation of your help and support, which I'm sure will make a massive difference to our children's spellings.

Kind regards,

Mr Bird

Head Teacher