



Dear parents and carers,

The children in Year 3 -6 are now ready to move onto the KS2 spelling system:

Spelling in KS2 is all about teaching children that there are a variety of spellings that make a certain sound, and that they usually have rules that apply to them. If children know and can use these rules, it will improve their chances of spelling unknown words correctly. For example, if you know that when you make a plural out of a word that ends in 'y' (eg family) the 'y' is removed and replaced with 'ies' (families) you can then apply this to any word that ends in 'y'. We also teach children the exceptions to these rules, so that they can learn these as stand-alone exception spellings.

Here are how the spelling lessons and homework are organised:

Investigation week (please note that after the launch session, the investigation week begins with a test of 5 seen and unseen words from the previous investigation)

One week out of every two, your child will come home with a spelling investigation to do. We will have looked at a specific letter pattern in class (eg an 'ow' sound using the letter pattern **ou** as used in the word 'about', and the letter pattern **ow** as used in the word 'now') and the rules that apply to it. During this class session, we come up with words that use that sound and sort them into the correct spelling pattern using the rules that we have learned.

The homework for your child from this is to continue what we began in class – find words that use the spelling sound, try to spell them using the rule and then check if they have got the spelling right in a dictionary. This does not have to be many words (5 or 6) – it's just important that they try the spelling out first before checking it, as it is the application of the rule that is important.

### Week 2

During the spelling session of week 2, the spellings that your children found during the homework are shared and discussed and any exceptions from the rule are looked at. The children are then given some spellings to learn for next week's lesson, when they will have the test of some 'seen' and some 'unseen' words using the pattern and the next investigation.

All details of the words to learn come home with your child on Friday in their spelling book and we will also put the fortnightly spelling rule on line alongside the other homework.

We hope that this helps, but if you have any questions at all, please do pop in – our door is always open.

Thanks for your continued support.

The KS2 Team