Tuesday 14th September Dear Parents,

This letter and attached information sheet will give you an overview of how we will be teaching and assessing spelling this year.

This year we will be using the Read Write Inc spelling approach and curriculum.

# What is Read, Write, Inc (RWI) and why is it being used?

Many of you will be familiar with RWI because we use it to teach our children how to read using phonics. It works really well!

We are using RWI as a new spelling programme for all children from Year 2 to Year 6. It will replace the old weekly spelling test on a Friday. RWI is a daily (15-20 mins) programme that supports children to learn new spelling patterns.

RWI Spelling is an interactive programme which teaches spellings in a fun and engaging way. Each unit is introduced with a short video. It helps children to learn spellings with common patterns and uses rules in order to help them recall spellings as well as teaching exceptions to these rules.

Individual workbooks allow children to practise their spellings and the teaching naturally follows on from the Spell Review part of the RWInc phonics programme taught as soon as the children enter our nursery. Therefore the children are already proficient at using dots (for individual sounds) and dashes (for digraphs) and prefixes and suffixes can be added to root words to help them to spell with greater accuracy, understanding and confidence.

We are using the RWI approach because children often do well in a spelling test but can’t spell the words they have learnt when they need to use them in their writing.

# When will it be introduced?

We will be using the programme this week. The classes have started the programme in full and children will be bringing home a spelling list each week to practise.

# How will it be introduced?

All the children have been assessed and will be working in ability groups so that we can best support their spelling needs. Year 2 children will begin the RWI spelling programme when they have reached Blue/Grey reading levels.Year 3 to 6 are working through the programme at their appropriate level, maximising time in order to fill gaps in their spelling skills.

# How many spellings will my child get and how will we know what they are?

The children will bring a list of spellings home on Fridays. Most children will have 10 spellings made of 7 words that match the spelling pattern they are learning in class and 3 common words that need to be learnt. These can be practised on their spelling sheet and you can test them at the end of the week.

These can be practised for 5 minutes a day for 5 days. With the programme being ongoing, and to ensure it has greatest impact, children will be continually going over words from previous units and will regularly recap on previous spellings within the lessons and homework.

# What are the Reception and Year 1 classes doing?

Reception and Year 1 will be continuing with their daily phonics sessions and using aspects of RWI such as dots and dashes to familiarise themselves with the techniques used within RWI in preparation for Year 2. In line with RWI, weekly spelling tests will therefore not be used in Reception or Year 1.

Year 1 and 2 will bring home phonic words that they are learning to spell alongside common words for Year 1 and 2 to spell.

If you have any further questions about RWI please contact your child’s class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mr Rob Litten

Executive Headteacher