



St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As of the start of this half term, we are making some changes to how spellings are taught at in KS2. Spellings will be taught in all classes at the beginning of every day and will follow an eight-phase programme across the course of two weeks. We are implementing this change as we are finding that although lots of children work hard to learn their spellings at home and often do well in a spelling test, they are not always applying their knowledge and understanding of spellings in their writing. We believe that dedicating the extra time to spellings in school and focusing on a spelling pattern for a longer period of time will help them gain a deeper understanding of spelling rules, patterns and irregularities, allowing them to apply this knowledge more effectively.

Your child will receive a set of ten spellings every week as part of their home learning, as outlined:

One week these spellings will be words that have been chosen by the class teacher that are related to their learning across all areas of the curriculum. These spellings will not be rule or pattern related and will not be tested at school.

The following week, the words will fit the pattern or rule that is the two-week focus of spelling lessons. These will be tested in a dictation on the final Friday of the programme.

We have attached for you the eight-phase programme that we will be following, as well as some advice on how you can help your child learn their spellings at home. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher, myself or Mrs Hodgson.

Thank you for your continued support,

Maddy Newman
(Literacy Lead)