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Dear parents,

I am writing to you to update you on some curriculum changes in school.

For many years, we have used Read, Write, Inc scheme for phonics and spelling. We have decided to move from this scheme to a different scheme called Little Wandle, which we believe will suit our school better. Staff have been receiving training on the new scheme and Miss Wilmshurst (our phonics lead) has been working exceptionally hard to set up all the new resources and books.

Information about Little Wandle can be found at the following link:
https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

As a result of the change in phonics scheme, we have also had to re-evaluate our approach to spelling so that this aligns. We will be using a scheme called Spelling Shed.

Some of the older children may remember that we used the Spelling Shed app previously for homework tasks. Spelling Shed has evolved hugely over the years and is now a full teaching scheme. The game is now a very small element in a spelling programme that is delivered in the classroom through a range of activities and resources. Rather than focusing solely on memorising words, the scheme encourages pupils to investigate how English spelling works by exploring spelling patterns, word structure, meaning and word origins. The children will learn a new spelling rule each week.

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At the end of the week, children will receive a paper homework sheet to bring home and return to school. Spellings will be set on the online game as an extra consolidation task and children will have the opportunity to use the app in school too to further support their learning. We will no longer be giving the matrix of spellings out to learn at home for a weekly spelling test as we were finding this to have little impact on the children's ability to spell accurately.

If you would like more information on our spelling, phonics or English curriculum, please visit the website for detailed curriculum information.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Ingles

Literacy subject lead and school standards lead

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