



BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong Believe Achieve

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Dear Parents and Carers

Spelling Curriculum

This year, to continue the positive start the children make when learning phonics in Reception and Year 1, we have evaluated the way we teach spelling at Banwell Primary, and in line with practice across the Extend Learning Academies Network we will be making some adjustments to the way we teach this important aspect of the curriculum. The focus of our teaching will continue to be on spelling conventions – patterns and rules – and how to apply this knowledge in all of our writing, not just the pieces in our English books.

There is little evidence to suggest that testing children weekly on a limited selection of words is an effective way of teaching. With this in mind we will no longer be sending a list of words home for children to learn each week. We want children at Banwell Primary to be curious about words and to challenge themselves by using new vocabulary in conversation as well as in their writing. We also want to create a buzz around spelling and we are in the process of planning our own Banwell Spelling Bee competition – more to come on that!

In order to consolidate learning, support with spelling at home is crucial. An overview of the spelling rules taught in each year group will be provided, as well as the relevant statutory word lists stated in the national curriculum. Attached to this letter is a document with suggestions for activities you could support your child with at home. As with all aspects of our curriculum, children in mixed year group classes will be taught the appropriate knowledge and skills - class teachers work closely together to map out curriculum content to ensure each child is taught the full curriculum across the key stage they are in.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education. If you have any specific questions about spelling rules being taught in class now please speak to your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Mrs Bevan

English Lead

