

Monday 15th October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Learning Resources Years 1 - 6

We are very pleased to be having our parent/carer consultations with you this week. I would like to take the opportunity to tell you about the resources you and your child will be receiving. These resources are to support our school priority of achieving the very best standards in Reading, Writing and Maths.

You will receive:

- An overview of the expectations for Reading, Writing and Maths for your child's year group. Your child should be able to do all of these by the end of the year.
- A spelling booklet for your child's year group.
- A times tables practice booklet.

The booklets are *in addition* to the weekly homework and are to be completed as you are able to, throughout the year – they do not need to be handed in to the teacher for marking. However teachers, or myself and other members of the leadership team, would be delighted to see completed booklets, if your child wants to bring it in and show us.

Parents/carers often ask for guidance on how to support their child at home and these are the ideal way – spelling and times tables are fundamental skills our children need to master. Please find some additional information on the back of this letter.

I hope that you will find these resources useful and thank you for your support in your child's educational journey.

Yours faithfully,

Karen Kondo
Headteacher

Spelling – further information

The revised National Curriculum, launched in September 2014, presented new challenges in terms of spelling requirements. It set out spelling requirements for Year 1, Year 2 and Years 3&4 combined and Years 5&6 combined.

For Years 1 and 2

- Spelling rules and patterns listed in the National Curriculum are taught in the daily phonics lessons
- Weekly spelling tests of these words are given
- There was not a specific word list for Years 1 and 2 however we adapted previous Year 1 and 2 High Frequency word lists and words that children need to be able to spell, to make word lists for these year groups (individually).

For Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6

- The National Curriculum is a two year programme of spelling rules and patterns to be taught; we divided this into a teaching programme for Year 3 and Year 4
- There was also a list of words for Year 3&4. These words do not always fit into a particular pattern but are words that the children should be able to spell at the end of Year 4
- This is the same for Years 5 and 6
- Each year group (3-6) has regular spelling lessons, and tests, on the spelling rules and patterns. The structure of this and days of tests can vary – please check with the class teacher in the first instance if you are unsure.

Three times a year at the start of each term children are tested on the year group words. It would be beneficial if you practised these words with the children regularly. Therefore, at West Acton, your child will be tested on these words 3 times a year and whilst the Government does not stipulate a pass mark as a rough guide we would expect your child to be: improving in each test, spelling about 50% of the words correctly at the end of the first year (3 and 5) and 80% at the end of the second year (4 and 6) and also in Year 1 and Year 2. **These are the words in the Spelling Booklet.**

Times tables – further information

Please see on the back of the booklet for guidance on which times tables your child needs to know depending on their year group. Learning the inverse (dividing) is also important.