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13th December 2013

Dear Parents / Carers,

KEY STAGE TWO PHONICS SESSIONS

As we approach the frantic end of a busy term, I would like to thank you for the welcome and continuing support you have given to me and the Key Stage Two Team.

In line with our school ethos, putting the children at the heart of everything we do, we believe that the best way to meet the individual needs of all the children in our care is to tailor the curriculum as best we can to the children of St John's. Therefore, we have decided that children in Key Stage Two will be vertically grouped for daily spelling sessions, in line with daily phonics sessions in Key Stage One. This will mean that, based on the phase of phonics or spelling level at which your child is working, they will be grouped with children of a similar ability for this 15 minute session every morning. Activities will be targeted to specific levels.

The adult leading your child's phonic / spelling session will set their spelling homework for them on a Wednesday. A separate spelling book will be sent home for this work – this will be in addition to your child's class homework book. Pupils will be asked to independently attempt to spell these words in their Wednesday session as part of our ongoing and informal assessments. Please support your child to achieve their potential by helping them to learn to recognise and spell these words at home. You may choose to use a 'look-cover-write' process. **Children need to bring their spelling books to school every Wednesday.**

The children will be frequently and individually assessed, and so may move from group to group as they progress. Teachers will inform you of your child's phonetic progress at parents' evenings. However, if in the meantime there is anything you would like to discuss, please feel free to come in and speak to your child's class teacher.

Thank you once again for your support. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year!

Mrs H Benarous
Key Stage Two Phase Leader