

1st July 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

I write to express my thanks to you for your ongoing support with helping your child to read and practise spellings at home this year. I am very pleased that as we near the summer break the pattern of progress in reading (including phonics) and spelling has generally been upwards.

Encouraging your child to read (or practise their phonics sounds) whilst away from school will absolutely be of benefit on their return in September. Reading can but does not have to be books; anything will work, from recipes to travel directions and even subtitles on films or video games. Asking your child to identify sounds in names of things around the house or whilst out and about will benefit those who are not yet free readers. During the summer holidays many local libraries run support sessions, reading programmes or offer advice about appropriate reading materials; do check in yours what might be available to you. These websites may also be of interest:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/children/5-to-12-year-olds/summer-reading-challenge> and <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

To continue seeking to achieve positive outcomes in your child's learning and progress, we are requesting that you keep your child's school diary for the summer holidays. Set spellings have been recorded on a weekly basis (in their diary) whilst at school this academic year and we would like students to continue this, where possible, over the holiday period.

This is especially pertinent this year because of the wide ranging impact of the Covid restrictions and lockdown we have all endured.

It is very evident in test results when students do regularly and carefully practice spellings they have been set and this translates directly into progress in their individual literacy skills. All students will be re-assessed for their current Reading and Spelling Age during September 2021.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Dunckley
Head of English