

# Waterman Primary School



**H**appiness  
**E**steem  
**A**chievement  
**R**esponsibility and Respect  
**T**ruth  
**S**pirituality and Service



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The Boulevard, Rochford, Essex. SS4 1QF  
Head of school: Mrs Eileen Thorn

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January

Dear Parents / Carers,

Based on the most recent assessments the children in KS2 have undertaken, we have identified spelling as an area for development. This is due to many factors, but mainly because of the increased expectations of the new National Curriculum 2014. Due to this, we have revised how we use the spelling keyring system moving forward, to ensure it is the most effective way for our children to become accurate spellers now and as they get older.

Moving forward, the whole class will have one spelling keyring to practise and focus on for the week. That keyring will consist of spellings that follow a particular rule or spelling pattern related to their year group / key stage. This spelling rule or pattern will be taught in class and will also be part of the half termly spelling test. The children will be tested on their keyring at the end of each week, to see if they can apply the spelling rule to the words on the keyring **and** other words that follow the pattern.

If your child has already successfully worked their way through many of the keyrings, they will be given the additional challenge of investigating other words that follow this pattern, this will be carried out in school **and** at home. This will help the children to master using a spelling rule at greater depth and challenge them to apply this to other words they discover. This will really help them as they get older and discover new words.

For some children who find spelling a challenge, they will work on the year group spellings with their peers in class, but may have individualised support outside of the classroom and homework that meets their needs.

If you have any questions regarding the spelling key rings and how we have adapted this approach to meet new expectation, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Finally, with a new term underway I just wanted to remind everyone that listening to your children read at home is one of the best ways you can support your children with their learning. Every child benefits from reading to an adult, from EYFS to Year 6. Please do encourage your children to read with you ideally three times a week and fill in their reading diary to show this.

Thanks for your continued support,

Mr Saunders  
Director of Learning