14 March 2018

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

**Spellodrome**

As most of you know, we made a decision about two years ago to streamline our whole school homework programme. We did this because teachers were spending a great deal of time producing differentiated English and Maths homework as well as topic based homework which some parents loved but which was also a real problem for some families in terms of fitting it in or simply getting children to do it. Teachers then did not know whether the work received had been done independently, with support, or even by the parent without the child’s presence meaning that we were unable to use it as an indicator of a child’s genuine understanding.

We decided therefore that the best use of limited time would be to ask parents to support us with the basics; daily reading, number bonds, mental maths or times tables and spellings.  We bought into Spellodrome which children work through at their own pace. For those who consistently use it this has been extremely successful with children showing great improvement in their independent spelling. Participation has however dropped off for a number of children. Please make every effort to have your child access Spellodrome as often as possible in order to help them improve.

A small number of children benefit from a more specific programme of work and these parents should already be aware of this but it will be reinforced at parents’ evening. Y6 also need something slightly different in order to fulfil the requirements of the curriculum and to prepare them for High School.

Thank you for your support, please talk to your child’s teacher if you have any queries about any aspect of this.

Yours sincerely

Adam Croft