



ALBAN WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

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Mrs Rachel Kirk, Headteacher

WE VALUE: RESPECT, KINDNESS AND AMBITION

Monday 26th September 2016

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Re: Spelling and Maths Competitions

Last year, children in Year 5 and Year 6 took part in monthly mental maths and spelling challenges. These events were very successful and promoted and developed key skills that children need.

This year we have decided to introduce these challenges across the school on a half termly basis.

Last year children were able to select a challenge and had a number of weeks to prepare for it. The test was then completed in an afternoon with the highest achievers from each challenge going into a final the following day. It was great to see how many children had been working hard at home practicing the skills they needed and how many children were determined to challenge themselves. The spelling competition is important as it will enable children to learn new spellings and vocabulary that will continue to extend their writing.

Our first challenge for this year, therefore, will be a **spelling challenge** which will take place on **Thursday 20th October**. Following the spelling challenge children will be given their maths challenges after half term.

All children in Year 2 – Year 6 (Year 1 will join the challenge a little later in the year) will be given a set of words, which they are expected to learn how to spell, in preparation for the competition afternoon. The children who are able to spell the most words correctly will proceed to the finals round, where they will compete against each other using their spelling skills. This will be in the style of a knock out competition, and children will be against other children who completed the same level challenge as themselves.

There will be three challenges for differing abilities and your child's teacher will guide them as to which challenge will be most appropriate, to give your child the best chance at success. The prize for the winning children will be decided with the winners – it could be farm related, cooking related or something else completely new! At Alban Wood, we value all children's abilities within academic, creative and sporting opportunities, and feel that it is important to give children the chance to compete within an academic capacity and celebrate their successes.

All children will be taking part in this challenge so it is important that children are encouraged to learn the answers to the questions on their challenge to give them the best chance at success. These intra-school competitions were extremely successful last year and I have every confidence that a whole school one will be too; I hope all children will be excited to participate (they were all very excited when we told them this morning!).

If you have any questions regarding the competition, please do not hesitate to contact me. Many thanks for your continuing support of the children's success.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Charlotte Davis
Acting Headteacher

