Dear Parents,

We would like to help children in our school understand how to support classmates who stammer. Stammering is a speech difference which means that words might get stuck as the child is trying to say them. It is a neurophysiological difference often with a genetic link that can affect up to 8% of children. It may result in sounds being repeated “p..p..p..please” , stretched “pleeeease” or they may not come out at all. When people react in a negative way to this happening, a child may try to hide their stammer by avoiding words or situations or by not talking at all. By raising awareness we want to ensure that children who stammer never have to feel like this.

This term we would like to use some resources in a class assembly, and in lessons, which help children understand that we are all different and unique and to foster acceptance and empathy towards each other.

If you would like to know more about when this will take place or if would like to know more about the video’s and activities, please contact your child’s class teacher or the special needs co-ordinator.

If your child stammers it would be helpful for you to talk to them about how they feel about participating in a lesson about stammering and to let them know that their class teacher will talk to them before any classroom discussions. You can also contact your child’s class teacher so that we can work together to ensure your child feels supported. You can also contact The Speech and Language Therapy Stammering service on \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* with any questions.

Yours Sincerely