



Mr D Roberts, Headteacher

Thursday 26th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Spellings in Year 3

Each week we have 3 spelling sessions, taught within classes. As well as learning the spellings (and being tested) they also have the opportunity to investigate spelling rules/patterns/endings and to apply rules when spelling other words, and to also develop their vocabulary and ensure they use them correctly in their writing. This will help them to become more confident spellers and, ultimately, more confident writers.

The children's spellings may be rules based, have similar endings, similar letter strings, same sound etc. and will revise and extend prior knowledge and revisit phonics. Alongside these they may also include misspelt words from their own writing, curriculum words or words from the Year 3 and 4 National Curriculum word list. Spellings will be stuck into their Green Spelling Book so that the children can learn/practise them daily at home.

The children should be learning/practising their spellings five times a week (for approximately 5/10 minutes each time). This should include making sure they learn the meaning of the words and understand how to use them correctly in sentences.

The spelling practices can be done in a variety of ways as children all learn in different ways, however one of the practices must be **Say, Look, Cover, Write, Check (SLCWC)** and another session must be using and spelling each word correctly in **written sentences**. We encourage the children to use descriptive language (adjectives, adverbs, similes, better verbs etc.) to create more interesting sentences. However, if your child is struggling with these two methods please let the class teacher know.

Other ways may include:

- A written test – given by an adult or older sibling – you say the word and your child writes it down (green book)
- Using magnetic letters to spell the words
- Typing them on the computer
- Using internet based spelling practise programs
- Rainbow writing
- Finding other words within the spelling to help them

Ideally, a combination of these methods could be covered throughout the week.

Each time your child practises their spellings (using whichever method) could you please sign and date their work (or the fact they have done something orally, on the computer etc. if it isn't visible) in the Green Spelling book, so that we can see they have completed five lots of practise that week.

Please find attached 'A guide for parents' (from the National Strategies Framework) with some additional ways to help you support your child with spelling at home.

If you would like any further information or to discuss others ways to support your child with spellings, then please do not hesitate to come in and see us or write to the class email addresses.

Thank you for your support,
The Year 3 Teachers

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