



WHITMORE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Halford Lane
Coventry CV6 2HG

Friday 7th October 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Spellings

To meet the demands of the new curriculum, the way we are teaching Spelling in Key Stage 2 this year has changed. This is part of our effort to improve children's spelling.

This year, children in Years 3-6 are taught within their class groups. The National Curriculum sets out the spelling rules, patterns and words that need to be learnt by children in Years 3 and 4, and Years 5 and 6. **The spellings the children are learning match their age group.**

Each week, your child will receive a list of spellings to practise at home. Spellings will be given out in each year group on a Monday and tested on a Friday. Please continue to support us by helping and encouraging your child to learn their spellings. Children can also practise independently using the 'Look, Cover, Write, Check' technique.

LOOK: The child looks at the word they are trying to spell.
COVER: They cover up the word so they can't see it.
WRITE: They write the word down.
CHECK: They check whether they have spelt it correctly or not.

The words your child is given to practise are words that they will be learning in school **that week**. We know that there may be some parents who may wish to challenge their children further by encouraging them to explore additional words which follow the same pattern or rule, so we will also send home details of the rule/s being studied that week.

We have made lots of changes to our spelling lessons to make sure that they are active and engaging. Your child takes part in games, paired and group work which are helping to reinforce their understanding of rules and patterns.

Spelling is a key part of children's writing assessments. In their independent writing, children need to show they can use the spellings, rules and patterns they have been taught. Poor spelling could limit their progress. This is especially important for Year 6, as **poor spelling in their written work could make the difference between your child reaching the national expectation for Writing or not, regardless of their other writing skills.**

As a school, we are making sure we recognise and reward good spelling. Your child can earn spelling raffle tickets for achieving full marks in their weekly test, and for using spelling corrections in their writing. These tickets will be entered into a prize draw each term.

We hope that you will continue to support your child in learning their spellings, and will help us to instil in them the importance of good spelling. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and speak to one of us.

Thank you in anticipation for your support.

Yours sincerely

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