

## **Bishop Rock - Y4 - Spellings Information**

Each week, a list of spellings will be set for your child to practice both in school and at home. Sometimes your child may already be able to spell a word or words from the list, therefore they can investigate and find other words that have a similar pattern.

In school, spelling lessons will take place every day ranging from 10 – 20 minutes. Children will also be taught to apply what they have learnt across all writing activities.

Throughout year 4, we will cover all the spelling rules / patterns as set out in the **National Curriculum**. This will also include the year 3 & 4 **Statutory Word List** (copy on back.) It is vital that these rules / patterns are learned and embedded so that children become successful spellers.

### **How Spelling will be monitored and assessed:**

We will not be formally testing the children in school on these words, (*e.g. a weekly spelling test*) as spelling tests are proven to have little to no impact on results and can cause unnecessary stress at home. Instead, we will be looking to check that these words are spelt correctly over time and applied with greater consistency by the children within their daily written work. We will however, carry out half-termly assessments to check on progress and put interventions in place if necessary.

### **Different ways to practice spelling:**

As spellings can be very fickle to learn, children can try out different ways of learning them - whichever works best for them!

Available to view on our class webpage on the school website is a '**Spelling Menu**' which can be used at home to practice learning spellings in different ways. Essentially, to make it fun!

Some strategies children have been taught include;

- \* Look, say, cover, write
- \* Writing the word out several times (learning by rote)
- \* Using coloured pens to write vowels or common letter patterns, *e.g. 'igh', 'ough'*
- \* Break it down into syllables or phonemes, *e.g. shout = sh ou t*
- \* Invent a mnemonic, *e.g. because = big elephants can't always use small exits*
- \* Using magnetic letters
- \* Letter tiles, *e.g. about* (yellow = consonants: red = vowels)

about = 

Finally, it is important to remember that there is **NO** 'magic' answer when it comes to spelling, but generally speaking, children who read regularly become good spellers.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr A Kevern