

## Spelling at St Mary's

At St Mary's, we use Spelling Shed as a resource to support the children with their spelling.

Spelling Shed is a spelling platform designed by a team of teachers. It is built with students, teachers and parents in mind and aims to make spelling fun for students as well as simple for adults to manage.

Spelling Shed will be used in Years 1 to 6.

Part of the homework for spelling is now set online using 'Spelling Shed'. This can be accessed using an app (at a cost) or using the website (free). Once your child has their login information they can access the online game via https://play.spellingshed.com

Every week, each year group will set their spelling homework with the expectations being clearly stated in the yellow section of the homework rule bar. Please see the Parent Guide for more information.

Look out for the school's 'Top Spellers' in our weekly Newsletters!



Children can now also access Grammar Arcade using the Spelling Shed app. This is a great resource to support children with their grammar knowledge.



## Spelling Sheets

Each week (as well as being set the spelling homework online on Spelling Shed), your child will have a spelling list practice sheet with the same words sent home. Your child should use this to practise at home using the Look, Cover, Say, Write, Check strategy.

In addition to this, please encourage your child to use the other side of the sheet to practise their spellings using some of the other strategies suggested. The idea is that your child covers this page and uses the strategies that they like to learn their spellings in a fun and informal way! Alternatively, your child might like to set up a 'Spelling book' at home to practise their weekly spellings in!

## Spelling Tests

Children will be tested on their spelling list on a Friday. Children will write a sentence including the spelling which is dictated to them by the Class Teacher.

Children will be supported by the teacher with visuals such as the sentence written on the board (with the missing spelling word) or they might have this stuck in their books. The test will be marked by the Class Teacher or a Teaching Assistant. If your child has Special Educational Needs and has a Termly Support Plan, they might have different spellings set weekly. The Class Teacher will ensure that these words are on Spelling Shed so that your child can play the games.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's Class Teacher.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs E McIntosh (Writing Subject Lead)





Teaching children the strategies, rules and concepts to grow their spelling and vocabulary knowledge benefits them in all aspects of their learning, as well as in their everyday life. You, as parents and carers, can really help! Children are given a list of spellings each week to learn at home which they are then tested on the following week. There are so many different ways that you can help your child learn their spellings in a FUN way. Here a just a few!

- Play games on Spelling Shed
- Look, Cover, Say, Write, Check
- Write the word around a shape
- Write the word as many times as you can in a box
- Close your eyes and write the word
- Create pictures in your mind which help you remember the sounds and spelling
- Memorable silly sentences or mnemonics
- Over pronouncing parts of the word (e.g. silent letters)
- Word pyramids
- 'Write' the word in the air
- 'Write' the word in the palm of your hand repeatedly
- Understanding the etymology of the word (the origin of the word and how it has changed through history)
- Use magnetic letters
- Write the word on a stone
- Investigate the morphology of words (their structure and formation)
- Sing the word
- Scramble the letters
- Segmenting and phonemes