



Mrs S Rayson
Head Teacher

27th September 2021

Re: Year 5 Spelling

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope your child has enjoyed their first few weeks back in school and is settling well into Year 5.

It may have been mentioned to you that we will not be sending home a list of 10 spellings to learn for a weekly test this term. We just wanted to write to explain a little more about this. Currently, we are trying a new approach to learning spellings in Year 5, based on current research into ways of teaching spelling. We will be spending more time in class investigating different rules and patterns, using the Year 5 statutory spellings as a basis for this. Increased class time will also be used to explore tricky areas within words, which will raise understanding of common difficulties with spelling, and patterns to be more alert to.

Instead of the weekly tests, children will have a list of five words they are trying to improve (the 'Focus Five'). These will be taken from their own work and will be replaced once the child has used the word correctly three times in their work. We hope this will lead to an increased sense of responsibility regarding improving spellings, but also allow children to improve their own personal weaker areas. Children have these 'Focus Five' words in a spelling book, and we are happy for them to bring these home each day if you would like to work on them outside of school.

As this is a new system, we will be reviewing it throughout the year and will make any changes, if necessary.

Mrs Pearson (5AP) and Mr Peak (5MP)

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