



St Mary's Primary School
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Tuesday 14th September 2021

Dear Willow Class Parents,

Spelling Lists

Your child will be given a list of ten words to learn each week, this term. These words are based on the phonics that we are learning in school and some sight words that can't be blended.

The list of words will be stuck into your child's spelling book each week and recorded on Dojo. They will write their test also in the book so that you can see how they have done. The test and the new words will usually be done on Fridays so your child will have a whole week to practise their words. We will also spend one phonics lesson a week focussing on the spelling rule for these words and practising them as handwriting in the mornings. The children will mark each other's spelling tests but I will also see them and check that they are marked fairly.

Learning words at Home

Please see the website for the lists of words too. There is also some suggestions on the website as to how to practise your spellings. In class we will practise writing them but you could maybe use magnetic letters, write on white boards, write them in the sand, on an i-pad, in flour or just say them out loud to each other. Please encourage the children to look for the diagraphs such as;

Ai ee igh oa oo air ear ure oi ou

We will, later in the year move to phase 5 phonics, which is looking at alternative versions of these diagraphs, e.g.

Instead of the 'air' diagraph - 'scared' uses the 'are' alternative. To be able to access this they need to be confident with the phase 3 sounds and have a quick recall of them.



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They have also got some high frequency words 'sight words' in their list. These are also displayed on the website, in the classroom, on the classroom support cards and in your child's English book. I will highlight the words that your child can spell in their English books. These will be available for you to see at the parent/teacher consultations but you can come into the classroom to look at their books after school anytime - just let us know so that we can get the books out for you.

Spelling Books at school

Please ensure that your child keeps their spelling book in their reading folder everyday so that they can practise when asked at school, as well as needing their book on Fridays.

Helpful Activities

You could:

- write on each other's backs with your finger.
- Write the words in flour or sand etc.
- Make a rhyme for the letters e.g. because= big elephants can always understand small elephants.
- Make up a song
- Write them in lots of different rainbow colours.
- Write the word and draw a box around the words so that they can picture what the word looks like e.g. where there are ascenders and descenders.
- Try to write the word without looking.

Thank you for your support with this system. If there are any issues please let me know.

Mrs Blankley and Mrs Cruttenden