



Spellings at Polehampton Junior School

Last week at Polehampton Juniors we introduced our new spellings scheme of work:
Transforming the Teaching of Spelling.
The spellings are all in line with the National Curriculum.

We have introduced a clear and systematic view for teaching spellings that will provide our children with life-long strategies. Spellings need to be taught logically to see the magic of words, the patterns and how words can help transform their quality of writing.

The underlying structure of the approach is based on the three zones of spelling, explored through patterns, remembering and recall of spellings.

Organisation of Spellings

During **week one (last week)**, the children completed an investigation with a hypothesis and looked at ways of writing the phonic sounds using a letter/letters known as graphemes. The nature of this is a 'slow' look at patterns, finding 'tricky bits' and **linking the children's understanding to other words**.

During **week two (this week)**, we will look at spellings involving analysis of common errors, why these errors occur and what to do to ensure that the correct spelling **embeds in their long-term memory** – this approach will ensure all pupils from Year 3-6 will have a clear systematic approach to spellings.

There will be no spelling homework as there is effective embedding at school and the children will not be tested on their spellings.

In addition to the focused work on patterns, spotting errors and linking spelling rules and exceptions, there will be a focus on 5 spellings (the **Focus Five**) which is individualised for each child enabling them to build their confidence and accuracy in their writing. The Focus Five words will be changed as the children require them, and show they can use them accurately:

Record it on your Focus Five grid
Identify the part you find tricky
Use it correctly in your work 3 times
Identify a new word/s to focus on from spelling work or writing from across the curriculum.



The response from the children to our spelling has been excellent and we have already seen brilliant links being made in every year group. We are looking forward to seeing our spelling develop as the year continues.

Miss Clarke