

Goosewell Academy

3rd January 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are writing to inform you about the changes that we are going to be making, as of next week, with regards to our expectations about the spellings which children learn at home. Historically, you have been given a personalised copy of the word list, which your child is currently working on, which informs you of the words which your child needs to be learning at home. Termly, your child has then had a large spelling test to help us measure the progress they have made.

As of next week, we are going to set 5 words on a Friday and your child will be tested on these words on the following Friday. The words set will link to the learning objective which we are focusing on in school the following week. We feel that this will help to reinforce the learning that your child is doing in school, as well as help them to understand how the words on the statutory word lists fit in with the many spelling rules and patterns that we have in our English language.

Your child will complete the test in the back of their homework book and this will be marked and given a score. You can then work on addressing any misspelt words at home where possible. We will also be revisiting words and patterns throughout the academic year. It is important that the children get a full coverage of the curriculum. To be at the expected standard in writing, your child is expected to spell words from the Year 3 / 4 word list.

You may find the following list of strategies useful to use with your child when you are supporting them to learn their spellings each week:

- Look, Cover, Write, Say, Check.
- Pyramid writing e.g.
 - a
 - ac
 - ach
 - achi
 - achie
 - achiev
 - achieve
- Rainbow writing – ask your child to write the spelling and then go over it with a range of colours to create a rainbow effect.
- Or any of the previous spelling homework activities sent home.

We look forward to seeing the impact of these changes on your child's spelling ability and confidence and thank you in anticipation for the support which you will give your child at home when they are learning these words.

Year 3 Teachers

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