

Goosewell Academy

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to inform you about the changes that we are making to spelling this term. Historically, the children have been tested on the Year 3/4 or Year 5/6 statutory list, you have been given a personalised copy of the word list and the children have 10 spellings per week to learn.

From now on, the words set will link to the learning objective which we are focusing on in our spelling lesson that week. We feel that this will help to reinforce the learning that your child is doing in class, as well as help them to understand how the words on the statutory word lists fit in with the many spelling rules and patterns.

We will continue with the weekly tests on Mondays but the words lists will be between 5 – 10 words depending on the rule for that week.

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
- Create ways of remembering the tricky part of the spelling such as 'one collar and two sleeves' for necessary.
- Rainbow writing – ask your child to write the spelling and then go over it with a range of colours to create a rainbow effect.
- Back writing – use your finger to spell a word on your child's back to see if they can work out the word you are spelling and then swap roles.
- Find words within words to help break the word up e.g. hind-ran-ce = hindrance.
- Discuss the definition of the words.
- What synonyms do they know? (Words which mean the same such as miserable / upset / inconsolable / heartbroken / unhappy.
- Can you break the word down into syllables or phonemes (sounds)?

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

Mrs Stoffell, Mr Leader and Mrs Dowling

