

Spelling at Holmesdale

Dear parents and carers,

Accurate spelling is an important part of the process of learning to write at primary school and the National Curriculum places great emphasis on correct spelling. Learning to spell can be very tricky for children. Some children learn to spell effortlessly and some take a little longer. Learning how to spell words correctly is crucial if we want our children to become confident writers.

Every child needs encouragement, support and praise for their efforts when it comes to spelling. A weekly spelling test can be a little scary for some children which is why it is important we ensure words are practised regularly and that the words they learn are purposeful and linked to their reading and writing so that they stay in the long term memory. Children become successful at spelling by practising over and over again and this is best done in fun and interesting ways. Most of us make spelling mistakes at some point. What is important is that we know what to do when we get stuck and we know how to correct our mistakes. At Holmesdale children learn rules, conventions and spelling strategies needed to become confident at spelling.

In response to feedback we have reviewed spelling in KS1 at Holmesdale and made some changes. Each week your child will bring home a list of spellings to learn. These will be **tested every Friday** and children will be given a new set of words to bring home for the following week. Children will record their score from the spelling test that week and any words which they need to continue to practise so that you are aware of how children have done during their test and if they need any extra assistance with any words so that you can continue to support them at home.

My Score: 6/10 Words to practise: grass kiss back fluff	Score for the spelling test that week.
Year 1 List 2 Spellings to be learnt this week are	Any spellings which were mis-spelt and need to be practised.
bank honk tank pink think kit skin frisky sketch basket These will be tested on 23/9/22	New spellings to learn for the next week.

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Teachers monitor spelling scores for each child each week in order to inform assessments, future planning and identify any children who may need additional support. Any common mis-spelt words will be focussed on in class. It is important that children practise their spellings at home each week. Encourage your child to have a go at practising their spellings and give them the opportunities to have a go at applying them too when writing. We would greatly appreciate your support in helping your child to learn and remember their spellings.

If you have any questions or your child is experiencing any difficulties with spelling then please do speak to your child's class teacher or teaching assistant.

Many thanks,