



# Greenway Primary & Nursery School



Crossways, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 3NH  
Tel: 01442 866249

Head Teacher: Katharine Ellwood

8th March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the past term, we have reviewed the way spelling is taught at Greenway in line with statutory requirements and to fulfil the learning needs of the children. There is a high expectation within the National Curriculum that pupils will learn increasingly complex words, as well as spelling rules and the etymology related to spelling. We have explored ways to meet the requirements of the curriculum and to make the teaching and learning as memorable and as engaging as possible for the children.

Here are a few changes involving spelling homework that we have made:

- Spelling will be taught weekly and will be embedded throughout the following week  
The children will be taught a weekly spelling rule through a discrete lesson. Confidence and accuracy will then be embedded through games and hands-on investigations throughout the following week. There will also be opportunities to apply these spelling rules across English lessons and across the curriculum.
- Spelling homework will be given out on Fridays and then assessed the following Friday through dictation  
The children will be given their spelling homework on Fridays. They will be given the spelling rule that they need to learn and some examples of words using that rule. On the following Friday, the children will demonstrate their knowledge and understanding during a dictation where they will apply the spelling rules. Dictation will consist of approximately five short sentences putting the spelling rule into context. The children will do their dictation in the back of their spelling homework book. If your child spells a word incorrectly, the expectation is that they will then practise that spelling.
- Homework will consist of a variety of activities designed to embed the spelling rules  
Homework will consist of a variety of fun activities that will focus on embedding the spelling conventions, patterns and rules and help them practise associated words. Examples of some of the strategies are attached. Homework will be completed in a spelling homework book that will be brought back to school the following Friday for the next lesson and the subsequent dictation.

The first spelling homework in this new format will be sent out on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. If you require any more information or you are not sure about anything, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,  
Anne-Marie Russell  
English Lead

