

SPELLING TERMLY LETTER

Spring Term

Stage 4

Toucans

This letter is designed to offer information about how you can help your child's spelling development at home and sets out which spelling patterns your child will be learning each week. You might remember we have made a shift away from spelling tests because research has shown this is not an effective way to embed spelling knowledge: due to the words being out of context. Therefore, we now focus on how the children are spelling in their writing.

What We Do

At Claypole C of E Primary School we use the *Spelling Shed* programme to get children (Y1-Y6) off to a flying start with Spelling. The programme builds upon the phonics taught in KS1.

Children focus on one spelling pattern, or rule, for a number of sessions and develop their confidence and understanding of the words along the way. Each unit engages all the spelling skills, supporting the children to focus on learning and understanding the spellings.

Children have opportunities to apply their growing spelling abilities in every lesson and patterns are scaffolded according to their needs. Previous spelling patterns are recapped throughout the year and built on year by year.

The following slides set out the spelling patterns for your child this half term, sometimes we will include suggested words to simplify or to extend spellings.

To make spelling fun at home, please take a look at '**Spelling Tips for Parents**' and the '**Tic Tac Toe**' activities at the end of these slides. These tasks engage all the spelling skills and not just rote memorisation (which works on visual memory, which probably won't be beneficial to your child). Encourage your child to think about their Phonics lessons- ask them to sound out the word and think about the letter choices using the **Speed Sound Chart** on the following slide.

Please help your child to learn spelling rules using the 'tips' in red. There will always be exceptions, but they work most of the time. Spelling isn't about how many words they can spell, but more about the pattern they are learning.

'Spelling is known to improve where pupils are taught a range of strategies and supported in finding out which strategy/ies suit them best.'
(DfE, 2012)

Speed Sound Chart

Consonant sounds

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
ff	ll	mm	nn	rr	ss	ve	zz	ti		nk
ph	le	mb	kn	wr	se		s	ci		
					c		se			
					ce					

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
bb	k	dd	gg		g	pp		tt	wh			tch
	ck				ge							
	ch				dge							

Vowel sounds

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
	ea				<u>a-e</u>	y	<u>i-e</u>	<u>o-e</u>
					ai	ea	ie	oa
						e	i	o
							y	

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure
<u>u-e</u>			oor	are	ur	ow	oi			
ue			ore		er					
ew			aw							
			au							

Week beginning 06.01.25

Lesson 16: **Words where a suffix is added to words ending in 'y'**

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words where a suffix is added to words ending in 'y'

This week's words

merriment
happiness

plentiful
penniless

happily
prettiest

nastiness
beautiful

pitiful
silliness

Week beginning 13.01.25

Lesson 17: Words ending in '-ious' and '-eous'

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words ending in '-ious' and '-eous'

This week's words

serious

curious

spontaneous

furious

victorious

obvious

hideous

courteous

various

gaseous

Week beginning 20.01.25

Lesson 18: Challenge words

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words with irregular spelling patterns

This week's words

breath
business

caught
different

exercise
extreme

medicine
possession

although
thought

Week beginning 27.01.25

Lesson 19: Word Endings -ssion & -cian

Objectives

- To be able to spell words with multiple sound-spelling patterns
- To spell words with the word endings: -ssion & -cian

This week's words

expression

impression

admission

magician

politician

discussion

permission

musician

electrician

optician

Lesson 20: **Words ending in '-tion'**

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words ending in '-tion'

This week's words

invention

action

completion

nomination

communication

injection

hesitation

stagnation

migration

selection

Week beginning: 10.02.25

Lesson 21: Words ending in '-ssion'

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words ending in '-ssion'

This week's words

expression

confession

admission

obsession

omission

discussion

permission

impression

procession

concussion

Week beginning: 24.02.25

Lesson 22: Words ending in '-cian'

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words ending in '-cian'

This week's words

musician
magician

electrician
politician

mathematician
technician

optician
beautician

physician
dietician

Week beginning 03.03.25

Lesson 23: Words that are adverbs of manner

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words that are adverbs of manner

This week's words

reluctantly
quickly

generously
unexpectedly

gently
curiously

furiously
seriously

victoriously
courteously

Week beginning 10.03.25

Lesson 24: Challenge Words

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words with irregular spelling patterns

This week's words

group
height

particular
potatoes

separate
surprise

through
caught

though
woman

Week beginning 10.03.25

Lesson 25: **Words that are homophones**

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words that are homophones

This week's words

scene
seen

whose
who's

affect
effect

here
hear

heel
heal

Week beginning 17.03.25

Lesson 26: **Words with 'c' before 'i' and 'e'**

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words with 'c' before 'i' and 'e'

This week's words

circle
century

centaur
circus

princess
voice

medicine
celebrate

celery
pencil

Week beginning 31.03.25

Lesson 27: **Words containing 'sol' and 'real'**

Objectives

- To be able to segment words into the correct syllables and phonemes
- To spell words containing 'sol' and 'real'

This week's words

solve
solution

soluble
insoluble

dissolve
real

reality
realistic


unreal
realisation

Supporting spelling

Multisensory strategies

see, hear, do

Explore word shapes

said = 

Find words within words

what: hat, at

Highlight the tricky parts

pollution, orchid

Highlight the vowels

independent

Mnemonics

busy bus
Friend until the end
Does Oliver eat slugs?

Supporting spelling

Say it as you
spell it

i-ron
b-e-a-utiful

Feel the word

Trace onto
surface or
partner's back

Use tactile
letters

W₄ O₁ R₁ D₂

Elkonin boxes

e qu i p m e n t

Morphology

Units of meaning, not
units of sound

The example below shows an Elkonin box (phoneme frame) for the word *sheep*, which consists of three phonemes (sounds): /sh/ /ee/ /p/



sh	ee	p
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Morphology Matrix

How do you use a Morpheme Matrix?

A morpheme matrix demonstrates how morphemes fit together (units of meaning, not units of sound). A morpheme matrix reads from left to right. From them, you make single, complete words. You may use one element from a column at a time. You don't have to take an element from every column of a matrix – but you must not “leapfrog” over a column.

en over	joy "a <i>happy feeling</i> "	able	
		ed	ing
		ful ous	ly ness

morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning in a word. For example, the word 'dogs' is made up of two morphemes. These are 'dog' meaning a canine animal and '-s' which pluralises the noun to show that there is more than one.

The word 'disagreement' can be split into three sections. The base word 'agree' and two affixes 'dis-' and '-ment'. 'Dis-' is a prefix added before the base word and '-ment' is a suffix added after the base word. These morphemes can aid understanding of the word that is being read. Adding the suffix '-ing' indicates an action. Adding 'dis-' as a prefix shows us that the word means 'opposite of', 'not', or 'reverse' of the base word meaning. For example, adding 'dis-' to 'agree' reverses its meaning.

Spelling Tips for Parents

All children learn in different ways, so it is worth trying a variety of strategies

Work on between 5 and 10 words at a time

Encourage your child to think about their Phonics lessons- ask them to sound out the word and think about the letter choices (use a **Speed Sound Chart**)

- Once your child has learned a spelling, practise writing it in a sentence that you read out.
- Put your child in charge of writing up lists such as a shopping list.
- Word searches, crosswords and other word-related activities based on your child's interests
- Help your child find out what a new word means or how to spell a word by helping them use a dictionary.
- Have a 'Word of the Day'; this can be a fun way of increasing vocabulary.
- Play games such as Bananagrams, Junior Scrabble, Hangman, TRUGs, Boggle
- Use commercially produced games such as Snakes and Ladders- spell a word every time you roll the dice, Jenga- spell word every time you take a block out, Connect 4 – spell every time you put a piece in etc.



Further games and activities

1. **Make and Break:** Use magnetic /wooden/foam/plastic letters to make the word. Break the word up and then reform, saying the letter names each time.
2. **Rainbow Words:** Write the words on paper and ask your child to trace over the word in a few different felt tip colours. Encourage them to say the word over and over as they trace.
3. **Jigsaw Words:** Write the words on pieces of paper and cut the words into single letters. Ask your child to make each word.
4. **Stepping Stones:** Write the individual letters of the word on paper/card, then ask your child to step/jump/hop along the letters in the correct order.
5. **Eyes closed writing:** After practising each spelling a few times, ask your child to write the word with their eyes closed in joined up/cursive writing. This uses muscle memory and helps spelling.
6. **Highlighting:** Highlight the tricky part of the word e.g. said^d or the spelling pattern e.g. night, flight. (letter patterns)
7. **Mnemonics:** Make up rhymes and draw a picture to help your child remember the letters e.g. You Open Umbrellas for you.
8. **Sensory:** Experiment with writing the words in different ways, e.g. use playdough, pipe cleaners, liquorice, glue/glitter etc. Your child could try tracing the words in a tray filled with sand/salt/flour. Chant letters to a rhythm.
9. **Outside:** Spell out the word using a squirty water bottle on the wall/patio. Also, write the word with a large paintbrush and water on a wall/ path/paper.
10. **Scrabble Spell:** Find the letters you need to spell a word (Scrabble tiles or wooden/magnetic letters) and mix them up in a feely bag. Pick a letter out at a time and build the word. This could be a timed activity.

TIC TAC TOE

This board has different activities to help your child learn their spellings. Your child must choose at least three activities. The activities must make a tic tac toe line; vertical, horizontal or diagonal. Parents, you are encouraged to assist your child to make spelling a positive learning experience. Have fun!

RAINBOW LETTERS

Write out each word using different rainbow colours.

Handwrite

Practise writing your words in your best handwriting. Sit the letters on the line and think about which letters are ascenders and which are descenders. When joining letters, think about which letters need a horizontal join, which need a diagonal join and which letters do not join.

Scramble

Ask an adult to write your words mixed up to see if you can unscramble them.

Silly sentences

Choose three words from the words you need to learn to spell and use all of them in one sentence.

CAPITAL LETTERS

WRITE YOUR WORDS IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

COLOURS

Write your spellings out using red for vowel letters (a,e,i,o,u) and blue for consonants (the rest of the alphabet).

Repeat

Write your words 3 times each.
Write your words 3 times each.
Write your words 3 times each.

Mnemonics

Write down your own clever way of learning how to spell a tricky word, e.g.,

potatoes
pot a toes

*I put my **toes** in a **pot***

Step words

Write your words adding one letter at a time

w
wa
was

TIC TAC TOE

This board has different activities to help your child learn their spellings. Your child must choose at least three activities. The activities must make a tic tac toe line; vertical, horizontal or diagonal. Parents, you are encouraged to assist your child to make spelling a positive learning experience. Have fun!

RAINBOW LETTERS

Write out each word using different rainbow colours. Make the tricky part of the word stand out.

Silly sentences

Choose three words from the words you need to learn to spell and use all of them in one sentence.

Syllable Count

Clap and count each syllable in the words. Write the words showing the syllable breaks, e.g.,
Py/ra/mid

Handwrite

Practise writing your words in your best handwriting. Sit the letters on the line and think about which letters are ascenders and which are descenders. When joining letters, think about which letters need a horizontal join, which need a diagonal join and which letters do not join.

Detective

Ask an adult to write the words without vowels for you to work out the missing letters, e.g.,
f__ld



Mnemonics

Write down your own clever way of learning how to spell a tricky word, e.g.,

potatoes
pot a toes

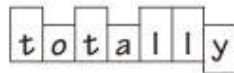
*I put my **toes** in a **pot***

Word detective

Carry out a word observation,
e.g.,
decide
2 syllables
Long vowel sound i/ split digraph
Starts with a consonant
Ends with a vowel
Contains to vowels and 3 consonants
The c is a soft c

Shape up!

Draw around your words making clear where there are descenders and ascenders. Look carefully at the shape of the word and letters in the box. Now try and write the word making sure that you get the same shape. E.g.,



Step words

Write your words adding one letter at a time

p
py
pyr
pyra
pyram
pyram
pyrami
pyramid

TIG TAG TOE

This board has different activities to help your child learn their spellings. Your child must choose at least three activities. The activities must make a tic tac toe line; vertical, horizontal or diagonal. Parents, you are encouraged to assist your child to make spelling a positive learning experience. Have fun!

Bubble Letters

Write your spelling words in bubble letters. After you write your words in bubble letters, colour your words with a crayon or coloured pencil.

Fancy Letters

Write each of your spelling words using fancy letters. Your letters can have curly-q's or dots, for example. Have fun!

Words Without Vowels

Write your spelling words on a list, but replace all the vowels with a line. Then go back to the beginning of your list and see if you can fill in the correct missing vowels.

UPPER and Lower

Write your spelling words two times each. First, write each word in UPPERCASE letters. Second, write each word in lowercase letters. *Example- SLIDE slide

Squiggly Spelling Words

You are going to write your spelling words two times. First write in regular letters. Then write the words again in squiggly letters!

Three Times!

Write each spelling word three times.

First, write each word in pencil.

Second write each word in crayon.

Third, write each word in marker.

You MUST write neatly!

Connect the Dots

Write each spelling word in dots and then connect the dots by tracing over them with a coloured pencil.

Other Handed

First write your spelling words the way you usually do it.

Then, try writing the list with your other hand!

Soundtalk your words



words

Pronounce the words using the phonemes

disappoint

Spelling Shed www.edshed.com

Your child has a username and password for Spelling Shed. This programme sets out a weekly focus with word lists and activities matched to the spelling pattern or rule being taught in school each week. These set assignments (a game-format) build upon your child's spelling knowledge and will help build your child's confidence in spelling.

Once your child has logged in click on Spelling Shed 'Play!' and choose the set assignment. They can practise spellings and build up their Shed Score to support spelling lessons in class.

Statutory Spelling Lists (Common Exception Words)

The children are taught the words from the statutory list from the National Curriculum. These are called red words RWI Phonics. The word-lists are a mixture of words pupils frequently use in their writing and those which they often misspell. **Tip: Red words/CEW contain a sound with an odd spelling. We can think of them as Red words because we need to stop and think about the odd part of the word before we write it. We can also think about the sounds/parts that we do know.**

A list of common exception words that children are expected to be able to spell by the end of each year group can be found at home.oxfordowl.co.uk/english/primary-spelling/

For more guidance about what is included in Spelling Shed lessons, please visit [Spelling Shed - Spelling game for school and home](#) If you have any questions, please contact Miss Bray via kingfishers@claypoleprimary.org