



Helping your child with spelling:

Learning to spell...

Children will be given spellings each week to learn as part of their homework. These will be based on a spelling pattern they are working on in class or they may be just tricky words your child is struggling with. Here are a few strategies to encourage your child to use at home.



Remember – little and often! Ten minutes each night is a much more effective method than trying to cram the night before a test.

- **Look – Cover – Write – Check:**

Spend a few seconds looking at the word you're trying to practise. Memorize it, cover it up, write it down then have another look. Did you get it right? Great! Did you get it wrong? Have another look... what went wrong? Which bits went right? Try again!

- **Speed Write:**

How quickly can you write it down? Have a close look at the word and write it down as quickly as you can. Get a 'feel' for the word. If you can join your letters try to join it up and write it quickly and you will develop a 'flow' for the spelling.

- **Mnemonics:**

Make up a memorable 'jingle' to represent the spelling (for example, **big elephants can always understand small elephants = because**). If you make up your own for a spelling that's causing you difficulty you're more likely to remember it.

- **Syllables:**

'Break the word up'. (e.g. Sep-tem-ber or Feb-ru-ary).

- **Spelling rules:**

Apply the spelling rules that have been taught in school that week. There's a wide range of these and you should know the particular rule by the time your weekly spellings have been set.

Parents: If you need additional information about the spelling rules that your child has been taught then please do not hesitate to speak with your child's class teacher.

