



LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Putting children first. Progress through partnership"

Headteacher - Mr Steve Abey

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Dear Parents / Carers

Teaching of Spelling September 2022

At Lionel Walden Primary School, we have enhanced our teaching and assessing of spellings across the school. A lot of children can perform in a spelling test but cannot always apply these spellings in their writing. Therefore, we are dedicating more time lessons that focus on learning spelling rules, spotting patterns in words and sound correspondence. Most importantly, we aim to develop and bring to life a 'wonder of words'. The underlying structure of our approach is based on three zones of spelling. The patterns of spellings are taught through the Grouping lessons, the pressure of spelling is eased through the Improving lessons and the remembering and recall of spelling are through the Acquiring lessons.

As mentioned earlier, our focus remains on the importance of learning patterns and the investigation of words rather than on testing. Each class will learn spelling rules, strategies and word lists specific to their year group ensuring all the National Curriculum fundamentals are covered in detail. This means there will no longer be weekly spelling tests from Year 2 onwards or tests at the start of each term. There may, however, be specific spelling activities linked to homework activities when appropriate.

Spelling in Reception and Year 1

Spelling in early years is fundamentally taught through phonics. Lessons will allow the pupils to practice and rehearse their newly taught skills. We will focus on learning the correct spelling of the first 100 common exception words (words that are commonly used in writing). When ready, the pupils will bring home 4/6 words to learn to spell and to write/say a sentence using the word correctly. More detailed information about how to support your child will be given in their individual spelling book.

If you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Bayes

Deputy Headteacher

