HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



TEWIN COWPER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL VOLUNTARY AIDED



CANNONS MEADOW TEWIN HERTS AL6 0JU Telephone (01438) 717378 Fax (01438) 718586 email: admin@tewincowper.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs A Simpson

Dear Parents/Carers,

Spellings: What will we be doing in school?

All teaching, testing, applying and reinforcing will be done in class with your child's teacher. Lessons will be focusing on spelling patterns and reinforcing each child's phonics knowledge. Each class' teaching will cover the National Curriculum's expectations of spellings and will offer support and challenge where needed. The spelling programme we use builds on phonics teaching that takes place in EYFS and KS1.

Spellings: What will you get at home?

Your child will bring home a word list that shows the spellings that will be covered in your child's year group during that year. We call these 'Common Exception Words' as they don't fit into the spelling patterns we teach in class. This word list contains the words for that year group (and perhaps lower year groups' for revision) and are quite challenging in some areas. You may dip into these and practise with your child at your own leisure. If your child does not bring a word list home this is because they will be focusing on different spelling patterns and are not yet ready to be learning the words aimed at their year group. For example, your child's teacher may prefer to focus on a certain spelling area for development high frequency words or spelling patterns your child may be struggling with in their English lessons – rather than moving them on to trickier Year group spellings. You may find that at certain points over the year, your class teacher has sent a different list of words home with your child. This is to support any in class intervention and is purely just to give your child extra practice. Some lists may be sent home sporadically over the term - this will be for extra revision for particular tricky patterns. Please regularly check your child's spelling folder to support their learning further.

Staff will highlight off words from the Common Exception Words list when they have correctly been able to spell that word. However, if at a later date, your child shows that they have forgotten this spelling (which is very common) we will note this on their spelling sheet to be practised and learned again.

Spellings: How can children practise at home?

For words to practise, refer to your child's year group word list or ask your child what spellings they have been learning in class (if your child has not been given a year group word list because they are focusing on different spelling patterns, please ask your child's teacher). When reading with your child, focus on any words that they find tricky to sound out, look up the meaning and practise with look, cover, write check. Dictate a sentence to your child which contains one of their year group's spellings.

If you have any other questions regarding spellings or how you can support your child at home, don't hesitate to contact me or your class teacher.

Kind regards,

Rachael Mileham English Subject Leader