

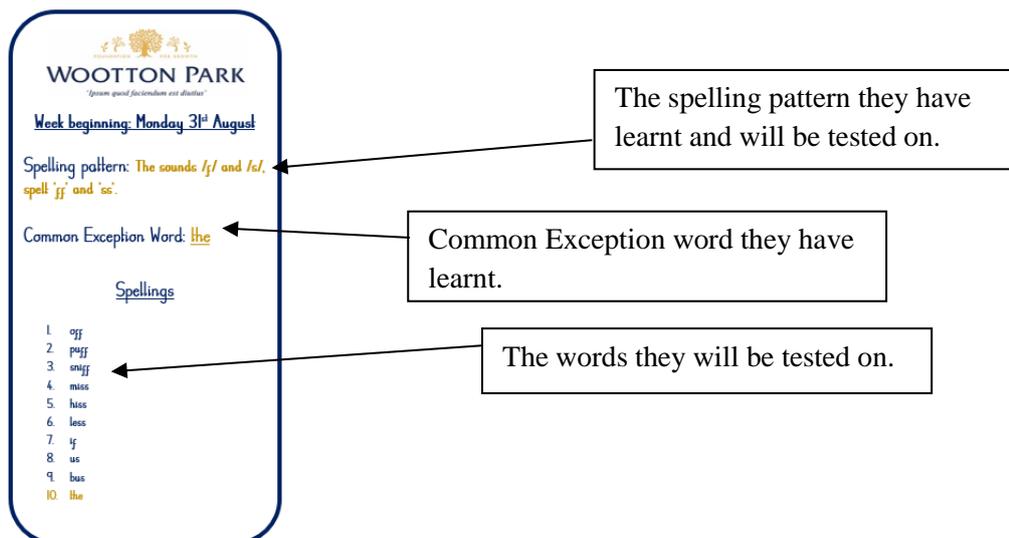
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Ref: Spellings Update

This year we are developing our spelling approach and have made some changes. Each week learners will be taught a specific spelling pattern. In Key Stage 1, they will only receive spellings when they are on **Phase 5** in their Phonics group in school. If learners are on Phase 3 and 4 they will receive a Phonics Spelling pack where they are able to practise sounding out and blending practically. This will teach the rules they need to apply when they are trying to spell words correctly as well as phonetically. Each week the learners will be sent home with spellings in their spellings book, Phase 5 upwards. This will specify which spelling pattern they have been taught and what they will be tested on the following week, so please can you practise these on a separate piece of paper at home. We ask that you **do not** write or draw in the spelling books as these are just for school use. It will also include a list of words that they will be tested on. Learners will be tested on nine words related to the spelling pattern and one Common Exception word specific to their year group.

Your child's spelling sheet will look like this:



The spelling sheet contains the following information:

- Wootton Park** logo and motto: *'Ipsium quod faciendum est diutius'*
- Week beginning: **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August**
- Spelling pattern: **The sounds /f/ and /s/, spell ff and ss.** (Callout: The spelling pattern they have learnt and will be tested on.)
- Common Exception Word: **the** (Callout: Common Exception word they have learnt.)
- Spellings** list:
  1. off
  2. puff
  3. snuff
  4. miss
  5. hiss
  6. less
  7. if
  8. us
  9. bus
  10. **the** (Callout: The words they will be tested on.)

To improve spelling across the school we have signed up to Spelling Shed, an online resource for teachers and children. Spelling Shed helps children to practise and learn their spellings via a simple game. The game gives four different degrees of support in the form of difficulty modes; Easy, Medium, Hard and Extreme. Higher levels allow a higher score to be achieved but children can practise as much as they like on lower levels before trying to gain high scores. The scores achieved give a league position and each class has its own league position within a school league.



# WOOTTON PARK

*'Ipsium quod faciendum est diutius'*

Each week your child will receive spellings to learn in their spellings books. These spellings will have additional practise set on Spelling Shed that will take learners to their spelling pattern so that they can practise through games, however **this is optional**.

There is also the exciting option to play a 'Hive' game which is a live, multiplayer version of the spelling game assigned. Each time a Hive is created, a code will be generated that needs to be shared to play. Learners play the game together in real-time. Hive games can be created by the learners.

All learners have their own Spelling Shed log-in details and these are attached to the letter. Your child has been given their login information and they can access our online game via <http://play.spellingshed.com>. The website can be accessed via the internet using a laptop or tablet for free, or via an app. You do not need to download the app as learners can complete everything they need using the online version. If you have any questions regarding the website, please speak to your child's class teacher or myself.

We hope that the children will have fun using this programme and as always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

What Spelling Shed looks like:



Enter your child's log in details.

This is what you will see once you have logged on.

'Assignments' or 'Spelling Shed → Play' is where you can find games to practise the spelling pattern learnt that week.



Each learner can choose to work their way through the levels or practise at a level they feel comfortable with.

Example games:

Select the letters to spell the words.  
(Set as an assignment)



'Buzz': Where learners can try and make as many words as they can from the letters given.

These games can be found when clicked on to their 'assignment' under 'bonus games'.



Kind regards,

Sasha Russell  
Curriculum Leader of English