

## Year 5 Spellings

At Bedford Girls' Junior School we talk about milestones. These are what you are aiming to achieve/reach.

The **first part of the milestone for spelling** is to **show a good understanding of the rules and exceptions to the rules**. You can do this by **investigating** and **learning the rules** (and exceptions) of the word families we look at. **Showing good understanding means that you spell the words correctly in your written work (in all subject areas), as well as in any spelling tests**. If you have learnt a rule it means you can spell many more words than the examples you may have been given. You may be tested on different words (but words where you need to apply the same rules). **Spellings are for life** - there is no point in learning them for a test and promptly forgetting them! That is why you are asked to **investigate words** rather than memorise them.



The **second part of the milestone** is to **spell all challenge words** (key words) correctly. Your focus now is to learn to spell all the **Blue Challenge words** (aimed at Y3&4) and the **Purple Challenge words** (aimed at Y5&6). To achieve a deep level, you need to spell the vast majority of words, including words with silent letters, correctly. The words (that the government set down) are tricky so the vast majority of you will find that you need to revise/learn the words aimed at Years 3 and 4 before moving onto the next group of challenge words.



To help you learn these I have split the Blue and Purple word lists into challenges of about 12 words. Every other week, in school, you will test yourself on one of the lists. You will need to remember to bring your headphones.

You will need to practise the words at home as part of your homework schedule. Little and often is a good idea! You will be able to move onto the next set of challenge words once you have correctly spelt 9 words or more. You will therefore move through the challenges at your own pace.

On alternate weeks (the week when you are not working on your challenge words) you will be working on the first part of the milestone (the word families). Spelling homework will be posted on Google Classroom each week.

There are many ways to learn spellings and we will discuss these in our spelling lessons. [Click here](#) to see some of the strategies that you could use. One of the best ways is to write the word out, **highlighting** the part of the word you find tricky. Then you can see if there are any other words that have the same tricky spelling or if this word is an exception.

E.g. **separate**