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6th January 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As previously communicated we are changing the way we approach spelling for KS2. From the start of Spring term we will be using Spelling with Grammarsaurus in years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Children will be learning how words are built. In KS1, children will continue to focus on a phonetic approach to spelling while they work on securing the content of our Sounds Write Phonic scheme.

In KS2, we'll be focusing on **etymology** and **morphology** in spelling, which means understanding where words come from and how words are made up of smaller parts called **morphemes**, such as:

- **Base** – the core part of a word that carries meaning (e.g. help, move, play)
- **Affix** – a morpheme that is either a prefix or a suffix
- **Prefix** – a part added **before** the base to change its meaning (e.g. un-, re-, mis-)
- **Suffix** – a part added **after** the base to change its form or meaning (e.g. -ed, -ing, -ful, -ness)
- **Stem** – a word part that includes a base and may also contain other morphemes (e.g. lovely, dangerous, laziness)

### What will students be doing?

- Building words using bases, stems and affixes (prefixes and suffixes).
- Learning the **etymology** of words – understanding their origins, historical roots, and language journey.
- Exploring how morphemes change the meaning of words.
- Using **word matrices** to see how one base can create many new words. A word matrix is a chart that shows how one base can grow into many new words using different prefixes and suffixes.

un	heal	ing	er
th	y	er	ly

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### Writing **word sums**

- (e.g. run<sup>n</sup> + ing = running, help + ful = helpful, drive + er = driver)
- Directly applying new spelling knowledge in their writing units.
- Learning **four key spelling rules** for adding suffixes.

### Why does morphology matters?

Learning about morphemes helps children:

- **Improve their spelling** by recognising patterns not just sounds – for example, learning that the suffix -ed is the correct way to spell past tense verbs helps avoid mistakes like 'checkt' or 'needid'
- **Understand word meanings:** Knowing the meaning of a base (like 'move') helps children make sense of related words like 'remove', 'mover', or 'movement'
- **Expand their vocabulary** and improve reading comprehension



We thank-you for your continued support.

Kind regards

**Mrs Baxter** | Senior Teacher  
Spelling Lead