

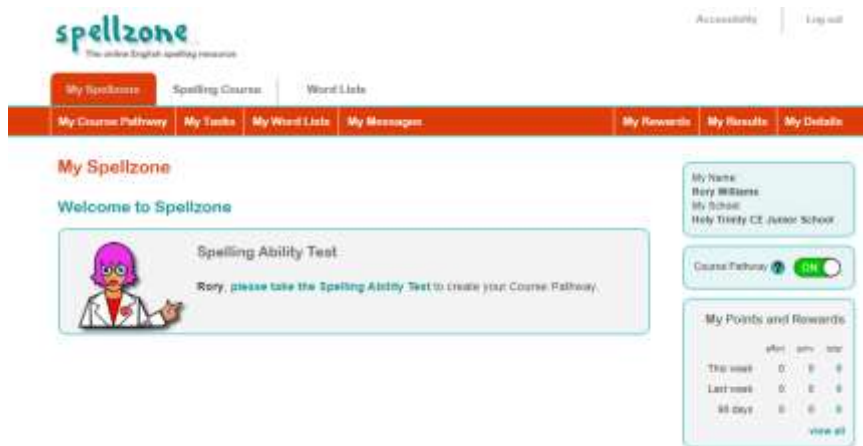
Dear Parents,

As Mrs Gruffydd mentioned in her letter last week, after half term we are looking to launch an online spelling platform called Spellzone. You will be emailed with a unique username and password for your child which will allow them to access the website.

Visit spellzone.com and click the login link. You will then see this:



Enter your username and password into the boxes and you will next see this:



The first thing children will be invited to do is to take the Spelling Ability Test. They will need the sound on as the words will be read out to them to then spell. At the end of the test you will see a screen with your results:



The test will assess your child’s spelling needs and then set a ‘course pathway’. Click on the arrow that says **View Course Pathway**.

You will then see a page like this but it will have different ‘units’ listed depending on how you did during the test.

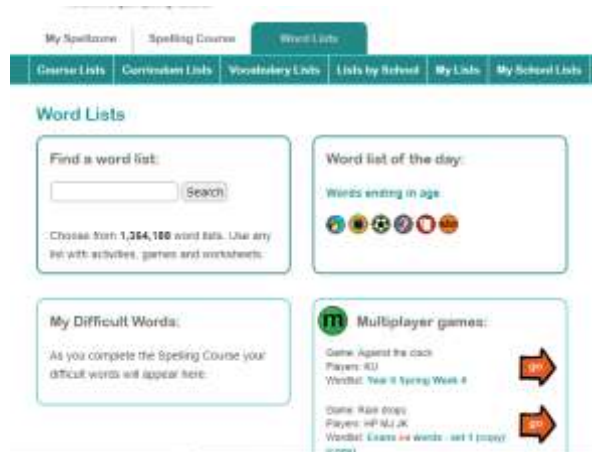


This will be specific to your child's spelling needs and will work through various spelling patterns and rules. There is a mixture of tasks and games the children are set or can choose to do to work through their pathway.

We suggest children aim to complete one unit of their pathway every 1-2 weeks. However, we are aware of the increasing concerns about the amount of screen time children are currently needing to complete online learning so suggest that your child spends **no more than 10 minutes a day** on this work – or even 10 minutes every other day. You can stop working through a unit at any time and come back to it later – the programme will remember where you left off so there is no need to complete the unit in one session.

After around 8 units, the programme will re-test them and re-assess their needs and consequently adapt their course pathway.

There are a variety of games that are accessible that children can choose to play. These can be based on spelling rules and patterns from the National Curriculum, topic word lists and even lists generated by your child's work of words they may have found tricky. Click on the Word Lists tab to find the games – the football icon will take you to them. There are other activities as well that you can explore for all sorts of spelling lists.



The spelling work set by your child's class teacher each week continues to teach and revise the rules, patterns and statutory words required by the National Curriculum and age related expectations. As additional learning support, Spellzone aims to support this teaching by reinforcing the basics of spelling and exploring spelling rules and patterns more closely tied to your child's specific needs and understanding.

Mr East & Miss Brick