

St Mary's spelling scheme 2014-2015: Year 4

Date:	Objective/rule	Example words	Rules and guidelines	Common exception words or words to be learnt in addition
3/11/14	The /u/ sound spelt ou	young, cousin, double, trouble, couple, country	These words should be learnt as needed.	Door, floor, poor, kind, find, behind
10/11/14	Adding –es to nouns and verbs ending in consonant –y <i>'change the y to an i and add –es'</i>	cries, flies, replies, copies, babies, carries	The y is changed to i before –es is added.	Wild, most, every, laugh (laugh and you get happy), aunt, autumn
17/11/14	Adding –ed, –ing, –er and –est to root words ending in consonant–y	copied, copier, happier, happiest, cried, replied ... but copying, crying, replying	The y is changed to i before –ed, –er and –est are added, but not before –ing as this would result in ii . The only ordinary words with ii are <i>skiing</i> and <i>taxiing</i> .	Great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful (b-e-a-u-tiful), hour
24/11/14	Adding the endings –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words ending in vowel-consonant–e	hiking, hiked, hiker, nicer, nicest, shiny	The –e at the end of the root word is dropped before –ing, –ed, –er, –est, –y or any other suffix beginning with a vowel is added.	Sure, climb, thumb, castle, listen, Could, should, would (O U lucky duck)
1/12/14	Endings which sound like /shun/, spelt –tion, –sion, –ssion, –cian	invention, inflation, injection, action, completion, exception, expression, discussion, confession, permission, transmission, admission expansion, extension, comprehension, tension, musician, electrician, politician, magician, mathematician	Strictly speaking, the endings are –ion and –ian . Clues about whether to put t, s, ss or c before these endings often come from the last letter or letters of the root word. –tion is the most common spelling. It is used if the root word ends in t (invent) or te (inflate). –ssion is used if the root word ends in ss (express) or –mit (permit). –sion is used if the root word ends in d or se (Exceptions: <i>attend – attention; intend – intention</i>) –cian is used if the root word ends in c or cs (e.g. <i>music – musician, politics – politician</i>).	Surround, weary, though, independent, inquire, benefit
8/12/14	The /i/ sound spelt y elsewhere than at the end of words	myth, gym, Egypt, pyramid, mystery	These words should be learnt as needed.	Would, should, could, their, there, they're
12/1/15	The suffix –ous	poisonous, dangerous, mountainous,	Sometimes the root word is obvious	Different, approve,

		nervous, famous, various, tremendous, enormous, obvious, pompous, previous, ravenous humorous, glamorous, vigorous courageous, outrageous, serious, previous, obvious, furious, envious	and the usual rules apply for adding suffixes beginning with vowels. Sometimes there is no obvious root word. -our is changed to -or before -ous is added. A final 'e' must be kept if the /j/ sound of 'g' is to be kept. If there is an /i/ sound before the -ous ending, it is usually spelt as i , but a few words have e (e.g. spontaneous, hideous, piteous)	accident, describe, early, earn
19/1/15	Words which are often misspelt when prefixes or suffixes are added	disappear (just add dis to appear) disappoint (just add dis to appoint) beginning (double the n at the end of begin to keep the short /i/ sound before it) business (busy + ness , with the y of busy changed to i according to the rule) necessary, unnecessary (just add un to necessary); necessarily (add ly , changing the y of necessary to i according to the rule)	If these words are thought of in terms of root words and the rules for adding prefixes and suffixes are then applied, the words are less likely to be misspelt.	First, recite, register, quality, guide, library
26/1/15	The suffixes-ful, 'full becomes ful'	Wonderful, spiteful, disgraceful, colourful, doubtful, beautiful, powerful, boastful, awful, grateful, skilful, mouthful, pitiful, hopeful, thankful, playful, harmful, careful, fearful, faithful, handful		Guard, immediate, grammar, certain, building, advertise
2/2/15	More prefixes	dis-, mis-, in- disappear, disappoint, disobey misbehave, mislead, misspell (mis + spell) inactive, incorrect illegal, illegible immature, immortal, impossible, impatient, imperfect irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible re- : redo, refresh, return, reappear, redecorate	Prefixes are added to the beginning of root words without any changes in spelling. Like un- , the prefixes dis- and mis- have negative meanings. The prefix in- can mean both 'not' and 'in'/'into'. In the words given here it means 'not'. Before a root word starting with l , in- becomes il Before a root word starting with m or p ,	Check previous weeks

		<p>sub-: subdivide, subheading, submarine, submerge</p> <p>inter-: interact, intercity, international, interrelated (inter + related)</p> <p>super-: supermarket, superman, superstar</p> <p>anti-: antiseptic, anti-clockwise, antidote</p> <p>auto-: automatic, autograph</p>	<p>in- becomes im-. Before a root word starting with r, in- becomes ir-.</p> <p>re- means 'again' or 'back'. sub- means 'under'. inter- means 'between' or 'among'. super- means 'above'. anti- means 'against'.</p> <p>auto- means 'self' or 'own'.</p>	
9/2/15	Carry on from last week			Congratulate, February, half, heart, improve, increase
23/2/15	Homophones and near-homophones	There/their/they're, here/hear, quite/quiet, see/sea, bare/bear, one/won, to/too/two, be/bee, blue/blew, cheap/cheep, night/knight	It is important to know the difference in meaning between homophones.	Laugh, February, library, different, because, although
2/3/15	The suffix -ation	Information, adoration, sensation, preparation, admiration	The suffix -ation is added to verbs to form nouns.	Opposite, breathe, knowledge, sew, situate, strength
9/3/15	The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)	Megan's, Ravi's, the girl's, the child's, the man's		Earth, educate, explore, extreme, material, discover
16/3/15	Words with the /s/ sound spelt sc (Latin in origin)	science, scene, scissors, muscle, disciple, fascinate	The Romans probably pronounced the sc in the Latin words from which these words come as /sk/, so mentally pronouncing these words that way may help with spelling – e.g. the pronunciation / skene / can be used when learning to spell <i>scene</i> .	Mention, medicine, produce, promise, recover, difficult
13/4/15	Adding suffixes beginning with vowels to words of more than one syllable	forgetting, forgotten, beginning, beginner, prefer, preferred gardening, gardener, limiting, limited, limitation	If the last syllable of a word is stressed and ends with one consonant which has just one vowel letter before it, the final consonant is doubled before any ending beginning with a vowel is added. The consonant is not	Concentrate, often, island, interest, continue, chocolate

			doubled if the syllable is unstressed.	
20/4/15	Words with the /k/ sound spelt ch (Greek in origin)	school, chorus, chemist, Christmas, character, anchor		Nephew, paragraph, particular, dictionary, bicycle, behave
27/4/15	Words with the /sh/ sound spelt ch (mostly French in origin)	chef, chalet, machine, brochure, champagne, chauffeur		Check previous weeks
4/5/15	Words ending with the /g/ sound spelt -gue and the /k/ sound spelt -que (French in origin)	league, tongue, synagogue, antique, unique, mosque		Remember, strength, regular, sure, surprise, thought
11/5/15	Endings which sound like /zhun/	invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television	If the ending sounds like /zhun/, it is spelt as -sion division,	Bicycle, excite, experiment, injure, punctuate, quarter
18/5/15	Words with the /s/ sound spelt sc (Latin in origin)	science, scene, scissors, muscle, disciple, fascinate	The Romans probably pronounced the sc in the Latin words from which these words come as /sk/, so mentally pronouncing these words that way may help with spelling – e.g. the pronunciation / skene / can be used when learning to spell <i>scene</i> .	Junior, property, position, multiply, decorate, disturb.
1/6/15	Words with the /ai/ sound spelt ei, eigh, or ey	vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey		Every, quiet, quite, climb, decorate, mention
8/6/15	The suffix -ous	poisonous, dangerous, mountainous, nervous, famous, various, tremendous, enormous, obvious, pompous, previous, ravenous humorous, glamorous, vigorous courageous, outrageous, serious, previous, obvious, furious, envious	Sometimes the root word is obvious and the usual rules apply for adding suffixes beginning with vowels. Sometimes there is no obvious root word. -our is changed to -or before -ous is added. A final 'e' must be kept if the /j/ sound of 'g' is to be kept. If there is an /i/ sound before the -ous ending, it is usually spelt	Through, calendar, inquire, possess, occasion, independent

			as i , but a few words have e (e.g. spontaneous, hideous, piteous)	
15/6/15	Contractions	can't, didn't, hasn't, couldn't, it's, who's	In contractions, the apostrophe shows where a letter or letters would be if the words were written in full (e.g. <i>can't – cannot</i>). <i>It's</i> means <i>it is</i> (e.g. <i>It's</i> raining) or sometimes <i>it has</i> (e.g. <i>It's</i> been raining), but <i>it's</i> is never used for the possessive.	Although, grammar, knowledge, improve, increase, concentrate
22/6/15	Words ending in –tion	station, fiction, motion, national, section		Educate, separate (there's a rat in separate), excite, quarrel, building, benefit
29/6/15	Endings which sound like /shun/, spelt –tion, –sion, –ssion, –cian	invention, inflation, injection, action, completion, exception, expression, discussion, confession, permission, transmission, admission expansion, extension, comprehension, tension, musician, electrician, politician, magician, mathematician	Strictly speaking, the endings are –ion and –ian . Clues about whether to put t , s , ss or c before these endings often come from the last letter or letters of the root word. –tion is the most common spelling. It is used if the root word ends in t (invent) or te (inflate). –ssion is used if the root word ends in ss (express) or –mit (permit). –sion is used if the root word ends in d or se (Exceptions: <i>attend – attention; intend – intention</i>) –cian is used if the root word ends in c or cs (e.g. <i>music – musician, politics – politician</i>).	Occasion, experience, benefit, paragraph, nephew, multiply
29/6/15	Assess and review			
6/7/15	Assess and review			

