supersonic Spelling Stars

at

Sacred Heart Primary School

At Sacred Heart, our Key Stage Two children access a spelling programme called Supersonic Spelling Stars. Years Three, Four, Five and Six undertake three Spelling Stars lessons per week.

What is Supersonic Spelling Stars?

Supersonic Spelling Stars is a series of high quality lessons that are aligned with the National Curriculum Statutory Spelling Appendices to support both spelling and reading. Every objective in the National Curriculum has been broken down and, ideally can be taught over two weeks to enable an authentic learning experience, achieve mastery, extend vocabulary and make that crucial link between reading and spelling.

The Underlying Principles

The initial underlying principle of our approach to spelling is to immerse children in learning about words through initially becoming a word whizz through "spelling speak." This will enable them to identify the root words, explore definitions, etymology, synonyms, antonyms, using words in sentences and exploring adjectives through highly engaging games and resources.

The subsequent underlying principle of our approach is to spelling is then to explore the spelling rules and how to spell the words correctly based on what they sound like and what they actually look like. The children are encouraged to apply their learning through a range of highly motivating and memorable direct teaching materials, games and activities.

What is the purpose of this programme?

The purpose of our approach is to ensure that all children can use and apply these words in context, extend their vocabulary and improve overall composition of their writing, using more adventurous vocabulary, and subsequently combining this with learning how to spell words technically and correctly. Children will learn how to spell effectively based on what the word initially sounds like (continuing to use their phonological awareness) and exploring what they look like (using their visual memory) when we come to write them and the rules that support these words.