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15th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are keen for your child to engage with their homework, which includes using EdShed. Your child has been given a login for Spelling Shed which can be accessed via our school website under the tab 'Useful Links'. They can either scan the QR code or type in their username and password.

Spelling is an essential skill for success in all areas of the curriculum and is important for communication in everyday life. Spelling Shed is a research-based scheme and is constructed on the principle that pupils learn best when they are taught about the patterns and rules of spelling and transfer this knowledge whenever they write. The scheme helps children to practise spelling through a sequence of weekly teacher-led lessons and interactive and online game activities at home.

What is Spelling Shed?

'Spelling Shed' is designed to help children improve their spelling skills using a multilayered approach: phonological (sounds in a word), orthographic (patterns), etymological (early origins of the word) and morphological (how meaning of a word influences its spelling) knowledge. Repeated practise, short-term retrieval and small-step goal achievement are key to spelling improvement.

How does Spelling Shed work?

The games give four different degrees of support in the form of difficulty modes: easy, medium, hard and extreme. Children can gain points for their hive by practising their spellings. Higher levels allow a higher score to be achieved, but children can practise as much as they like on easier levels before attempting trickier tasks. The scores achieved give a league position and each class has its own combined league position within a school league as well as a world league. Your child's teacher will set lists of words as assignments and will monitor their progress via the system. Your child should practise these words using the assignments section.

As always, if you have any queries, please feel free to contact the school at any time on 0121 716 0444 or email enquiry@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org.

Yours sincerely,

Miss A Brenwald
Year 4 Teacher
English Lead

