



BEDFORD CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

ST JOHN RIGBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

God's will be done through work and play, as we follow Jesus day by day

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(Interim) Headteacher: Mrs M McGettigan BEd Hons

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Dear Parent/ Carer

Learning how to spell is an important, lifelong skill and at St John Rigby we are always trying to find new innovative ways to improve the learning experiences for our pupils. As part of our new approach to the teaching and learning of spellings we have subscribed to the Spelling Shed, a spelling platform designed to make spelling fun for students.

The Spelling Shed helps children to practice spellings via a simple game, which has been developed to be 'dyslexia friendly' using the 'Open Dyslexic' font and gives four different levels, in the form of difficulty modes, to support pupils of all abilities through spelling lists with appropriate degrees of challenge: Easy, Medium, Hard and Extreme. Higher levels allow a higher score to be achieved but children can practice as much as they like on the lower levels before trying to gain high scores. The scores achieved give pupils a league position and each class has its own position within both a school league and world league.

Spelling Shed also allows for Home Learning and whole class 'Hive' games as a more interactive form of a spelling test. Your child's class teacher will set lists of words that your child should practice and, with over 4,000 spellings from the National Curriculum including disambiguation phrases for homophones, teachers will track and monitor pupils progress through the learning objectives from Y1 - Y6.

Each pupil will be given a login to access the online game via <https://play.spellingshed.com>

To be entered into the Spelling Shed system a small amount of information is added to their database. This is limited to name, username and password. Usernames are displayed in certain areas and the school will ensure that this is limited to first name and last initial or just initials as a maximum. Spelling shed also complies with GDPR and their policy can be seen on their website: <https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/privacy.html>

We hope this will be a new exciting way to practice spellings and that you will support us by encouraging your child to regularly use the online game to practice and complete homework when given. However, should you not wish your child's information to be entered into the Spelling Shed system and stored or you would like to discuss this further, please contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M McGettigan
Interim Headteacher

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DIOCESE OF NORTHAMPTON

