



# Bassingbourn Village College

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**Mr D Cooper**  
**Principal**

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

Dear Parents/Carers of year 7 students

Following a successful competition last year Bassingbourn Village College is again entering the National Foreign Language Spelling Bee competition. This involves all of year 7 who are studying French or Spanish, and will take place in school time. The aim of the Spelling Bee is for students in Year 7 who are beginners in a foreign language to practise and improve their vocabulary, spelling, pronunciation and memory skills in French or Spanish. All of the words in the competition are common words that are taught in the curriculum. We hope that the competition will be fun, but also support students in their learning of key vocabulary.

The students will all be given 50 words to spell in French or Spanish (words that we have already covered in class) using the French/Spanish pronunciation of the alphabet. The list of these words can be found on the reverse of this letter. Competitions will take place firstly in each class at the end of the Autumn Term, with students being given words to translate and spell in French/Spanish. The winners of each class will be the three students who can spell the most words correctly in one minute. The winners of each class will then go into the school competition, and be given a further 50 words to spell. The school competition will take place in the first half of the spring term. The winners of this will then go through to a regional final, and then if successful, a national final in the summer term.

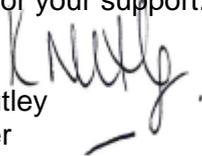
In class students will be shown how to download a free App called 'Spelling Bee' which is very useful in helping to practise the spelling, in a written form, and in class we will be practising the spelling and pronunciation of these words.

If you would like more information about this competition, and feel able to support your child, please use the following:

- The first 50 words can be found on the reverse of this letter.
- Download the free App, which is called 'Spelling Bee' and select French/Spanish. Stage 1 is the stage that all students will be learning for the first round.
- The departmental vocabulary booklet which all students have (and can be found also on the school website) also helps with pronunciation of the alphabet in French/Spanish.
- There is a website which explains the competition in a little more detail, which can be found at [www.flsb.co.uk](http://www.flsb.co.uk).

We hope that you can support your child by encouraging them to learn and practise the words at home. If you would like further information, please do email me.

Thank you for your support.

  
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