

## Year four – top tips for spelling.

Grapheme (letter/s) phoneme (sound)  
correspondence.

/g/ phoneme (sound)

gu e.g. guide, guitar, guess

/s/ phoneme (sound)

sc e.g. science, descend, scent (Latin in origin)

Punctuation

Possessive apostrophe with singular proper nouns *e.g. Cyprus's population*

Possessive apostrophe with plurals

*e.g. the boys' ball (the ball belongs to a group of boys)*

Prefixes and suffixes

Suffixes:

/ure/ phoneme (sound)

Words ending spelt 'ure' *e.g. treasure, measure*

Words ending spelt 'ture' *e.g. creature, furniture*

/shun/ phoneme (sound)

Words ending spelt 'sion' *e.g. division, confusion*

Words ending 'tion' – the most common ending *e.g. fiction, fraction*

'cian' – common in occupations *e.g. optician, electrician*

'sion' – where the base word ends in 'd'/'de' or 's'/'se' *e.g. collide – collision*

'ssion' *e.g. session, profession*

Words ending spelt 'ous' *e.g. poisonous, outrageous*

**Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable ('ing',)**

Prefix:

'mis-' don't confuse the prefix with the word 'miss' and double the 'ss'  
*e.g. misinform*

Suffix:

'ful-' don't confuse the suffix with the word 'full' and double the 'll'  
*e.g. forgetful*