Year 5 Spelling Overview

What we've learnt this half term

Half term:	Autumn 2, 2026/27
Spelling quiz:	Week 12

This half term, Year 5 have learnt the 50 spellings below through Ready Steady Spell, our spelling programme. Each week's words share a spelling pattern, and children are taught the pattern alongside the words so they can use it to spell other words that follow the same rule. This half term has been about the beginnings and endings of words: prefixes that carry a number or a meaning (uni, tri, sub, super, anti), and endings such as tion, sion and cian. Tricky words come from the national curriculum list of words children should be able to spell by the end of Year 6. Many don't follow the usual rules, so children learn them by sight and usually need more practice with them.

Week 12 is a practise and apply week, when children revisit the half term's words and sit a short spelling quiz on a selection of them. Spellings only stick if they keep being used, so please keep coming back to these at home after the quiz too. A few minutes, two or three times a week, does far more than one long session.

Week	Spelling focus	This week's words	Tricky words	Try this at home
Week 7	Turning verbs into nouns. Root words ending in te use **tion** (celebrate, celebration), se uses **sion** (averse, aversion), and ss or mit uses **ssion** (depress, depression; omit, omission).	celebration, decoration, creation, animation, aversion, depression, omission	**immediately, develop, especially**	This builds on Year 4: look at how the root word ends and it tells you which ending to use. omit to omission catches people out, because the t becomes **ss**.
Week 8	**cian** for people's jobs when the root word ends in c (electric, electrician). Number prefixes: **uni** (one), **bi** (two) and **tri** (three).	electrician, physician, musician, unicorn, universe, bicycle, biceps, triangle	**equipment, relevant**	Talk about what each prefix tells you: a unicorn has one horn, a bicycle two wheels, a triangle three sides. Ask your child for more (tricycle, uniform, biplane).
Week 9	More number prefixes: **quad** (four), **pent** (five), **hex** (six) and **oct** (eight). **circ** meaning round (circle, circuit).	quadrant, pentathlon, hexagon, octopus, octave, circle, circuit	**shoulder, average, recognise**	Link these to maths: a hexagon has six sides, an octagon eight. An octopus has eight arms. Ask your child how many events there are in a pentathlon.
Week 10	The prefixes **sub** (under), **inter** (between) and **super** (above or beyond), added straight on with no change to the root word.	subtitle, subtotal, intercom, interaction, supersonic, superstore, superfood	**criticise, occupy, occur**	Work out the meaning together from the prefix: a subtitle sits under the picture, an intercom talks between rooms, supersonic is faster than sound.
Week 11	The prefixes **anti** (against) and **auto** (self). Nouns end in **ce** and verbs end in **se**: advice and advise, device and devise.	antigravity, automobile, automatic, advice, advise, device, devise	**profession, interfere, interrupt**	advice and device are things, so they take c. advise and devise are actions, so they take s. Practice and practise work the same way, and both are on every Bexton spelling sheet.
Week 12	**Practise and apply:** children revisit all of this half term's words and sit the half-termly spelling quiz on a selection of them.			

Ways to practise at home

QUICK-FIRE QUIZ
Read out five words from different weeks. Your child writes them, then checks against this sheet and fixes any mistakes.

IN A SENTENCE
Pick two words and write one sentence using both. Check the spelling, the capital letter and the full stop.

SORT IT
Write some of the words on scraps of paper and sort them by prefix: uni, bi, tri, quad, sub, inter, super, anti or auto. Then talk about what each prefix means.

SPOT IT
Look out for this half term's words in reading books, on signs and on packaging, and point them out together.

LOOK, SAY, COVER, WRITE, CHECK
For any word that's still wobbly, use the same method as the weekly practice sheet.