

Dear Parent/Carer

## **'Sir Linkalot' - Award-winning spelling app**

We have been offered a free trial of a spelling app called 'Sir Linkalot' that is designed to help children (and adults), spell those tricky common exception words, all the way from *was, two* and *they* up to *manoeuvre, onomatopoeia* and even *diarrhoea*! Some schools in the Hamwic Trust use it already and have recommended it to us for use in case we end up closing our schools before the Easter break. The schools that use it say that most children have found that it really helps them to remember how to spell the words. It works by the children watching a very short video clip which provides a visual memory link to help them remember the spelling. If you would like to find out more, please follow the link: [The Future of Spelling](#)

Once you have downloaded the app you will find that it is not solely for spelling. It covers other technical requirements of the National Curriculum, i.e. vocabulary, homophones, punctuation, grammar, rules and patterns. You will see in the above clip that Countdown's Susie Dent is on the app as 'Susie Lexicographer' who will tell you the etymology of words that have an interesting story to tell.

During the free trial, you can download the 'Sir Linkalot' app from the online store onto a mobile or tablet for free. Once you have downloaded it from an online store, please tap on the log icon (for 'Log in') at the top right, clicking on "Sir Linkalot's Code (schools only)". Type 'Hamwic' in the username and the following password AA2KSF2C3J. You can also view it on a laptop or PC. Type in the browser itself (not a search engine) [app.sirlinkalot.org](http://app.sirlinkalot.org) and follow the above instructions.

The words are grouped into packs of 20 with a test at the end to see how well they have remembered them. It works best if they just work on 4/5 words a day - watching the video then practising writing the word down then re-watching the video to check if they got it right. The packs start with easier words and work up to very difficult words. There are also packs that show different spelling rules which are helpful when it comes to being able to apply the rules to a range of different words.

If you have any problems downloading the app or logging in, please don't hesitate to contact us. We would love to hear how you are getting on with it and hopes it proves to be a useful learning tool.

