The HMS Spelling Bee will be on Tuesday, February 6, at 6:00 p.m. in the HMS Cafeteria.

If interested in participating, please sign up with your English teacher.

The winner of the HMS Bee will participate in the Los Angeles County Spelling Bee on Wednesday evening, March 28th.

We hope to see you all at the HMS Spelling Bee on February 6th!

Any questions? Please contact:
Mrs. Doan – sdoan@smusd.us or
Mrs. Moffat – smoffat@smusd.us
The Los Angeles County Spelling Bee Study Guidelines

Studying words and preparing for a spelling bee can be a lot of fun! Here are a few ideas that might be helpful:

IXL – **There are some great sections that can help you learn prefixes, suffixes, and Greek and Latin roots. Look for J.1-J.8 and K.1-K.5.**

1. Study prefixes and suffixes. Know what they mean and how they attach to words.
2. Learn Greek and Latin root words. These are critical to unlocking thousands of words.
3. Study word families. For example, look at the root “spect.” It appears in many words-respect, spectacles, inspect, disrespect…. If you learn the root, you can mentally chunk the word and know the pieces.
4. Learn basic spelling rules. Spelling is actually somewhat predictable. Know the few rules that usually work.
5. Skip memorizing hoards of words on extensive word lists. Students who only memorize word lists rarely win competitions. In some cases it causes the speller to freeze when they get a word that has not been on one of their lists.
6. Read every day. Read widely, over many genres and topics. The more words you are exposed to, the more familiar you become with patterns and fluctuations in words.
7. Play word games. Language can be really fun and playing word games like Scrabble, Boggle, Zyngo and Dabble allow for making and connecting words.
8. Surf the net: use online sites to make the studying fun. Sites like [www.myspellit.com](http://www.myspellit.com), [www.wordcentral.com](http://www.wordcentral.com), [www.spellingcoach.com](http://www.spellingcoach.com), [www.learnthat.org](http://www.learnthat.org), and [www.spellingcity.com](http://www.spellingcity.com) are great resources!
9. Keep a personal word journal. Keep track of new words, interesting words, synonyms, patterns, rules and more. Writing and recording words will help them stay in your mind.
10. Buddy up! Have a consistent person who loves words and will help you learn and grow as a speller. Study and play games.