



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **Date**

## **School Name, Location** wins local heat of 2010 *Times* Spelling Bee - the UK's only national Spelling Competition for schools

More than 1000 schools from across the UK have entered a team for the 2010 *Times* Spelling Bee and **School Name** from **X** have won their local heat at **X Cineworld** on **Date**. The team competed against **X number** teams from local schools.

The **School Name** team consisted of three players and a reserve – **Name/Ages** with **Name/Age** as a reserve.

The team showed off their mastery by successfully spelling words such as **X** and **X**.

**Teacher Name** from **X** school said: “”

**X pupil** said: “”

In second place was **X school, from X**, with **X school, from X** coming third.

**X school** will go forward to *The Times* Spelling Bee Semi-Finals in May. The ten winning teams from the Semi-Finals will then travel to London to compete in the Grand Final at The Institute of Education on 24 June.

*The Times* Spelling Bee aims to discover the country's best young spellers and make spelling fun for children of all abilities.

*The Times* is a committed supporter of standards of English and a respected commentator on educational matters. *The Times* Spelling Bee is one of a series of nationwide initiatives to help inspire children and support teachers and the local championships started in Cineworld cinemas on Monday 8 March

For more information visit [www.timesspellingbee.co.uk](http://www.timesspellingbee.co.uk)

### Notes to Editors

- The 2010 Spelling Bee Championship is open to full-time pupils in schools in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland who turned 12 years old between September 1, 2009, and August 31, 2010. The closing date for school entries for the 2010 competition was December 2009.
- *Collins* is the official dictionary of the *Times* Spelling Bee and the Word List for the local championship heats and semi finals will be based on Collins dictionaries, especially the *Collins School Dictionary*. The *Collins School Dictionary* was compiled with the assistance of teachers specifically for children aged 11-12. The range of word difficulty in the Word List has been validated by teachers as being a good progression from easy to challenging and appropriate for 11-12 year-old children.
- Microsoft, sponsor of *The Times* Spelling Bee 2010, works in partnership with schools and students around the globe, to support teaching and expand the power of education for all through personalised learning. Office 2007 is the essential software suite for home, providing countless ways to help you and your family to get things done. Quickly create good-looking documents, spreadsheets and presentations for homework, home budgets, creative projects, personal organization and more. Find out more at [www.office2007.co.uk](http://www.office2007.co.uk)
- Cineworld Group was founded in 1995 by the current senior management team and is now one of the leading cinema groups in the UK. The Group operates 77 sites of which 72 are multiplex sites with five screens or more. Cineworld's portfolio includes five out of the ten highest grossing cinemas in the UK and Ireland including the number one and two (Glasgow and Dublin).

- **The 2009 Spelling Bee Champions were; Jonah Surkes, Dylan Amin, Prahalad Prasad and Gordon Hao from St Martin's School in London.**