Glossary of Grammar Terms
Year 3

adverb a word that describes how, when or where something happens (*quickly, slowly* are adverbs)

alliteration the use of words that begin with the same sound to create a special effect in writing (*five fat fish*)

clause a group of words built around a verb. Sentences are made up of one or more clauses

compound sentence a sentence made up of two sentences joined together by a conjunction (*Ravi played football, but George played cricket*)

conjunction a word that you use to join two parts of a sentence together (*and* and *but* are conjunctions)

homophones a word that is pronounced the same as another word but differs in meaning, and may differ in spelling (*hear, here; write, right*)

paragraph a collection of sentences about the same thing

prefix a group of letters that is added to the beginning of a word to change its meaning, such as *un-* and *dis-*

root word a word to which a prefix or suffix can be added to make a new word. In the word *unhappy, un-* is a prefix and *happy* is the root word

similes a way of describing by comparing it within something else (*as brave as a lion*)

inverted commas (" ") use this around words to show that someone is speaking

preposition a word that indicates a relationship, often in time or space, between nouns or noun phrases and other parts of the clause, e.g. *across, in, at, under, with, of.*

subordinate clause a clause that is dependent for its meaning on the main clause and is therefore sometimes referred to as a dependent clause. It cannot stand alone as, without the main clause, its meaning is unclear (*He put on his coat because it was cold*)

suffix a group of letters that is added to the end of a word to change its meaning or make it a different word class. The suffix *–ly* changes an adjective into an adverb (*safe, safely*)

vowel a type of letter in the alphabet

word family a group of words that are all based on a root word or set of letters (*start, restart, started, starter*)