

## At Home

Your child will come home with a weekly spelling rule and Chilli Challenge word list. Each week they will have the opportunity to complete a spelling activity related to their weekly words. You could help at home by discussing which strategy they will use to help them remember to spell each word.

In addition, to reinforce the learning, pupils could use the *say, make/break, blend, read and write* method to practise their words. You could also take turns to dictate simple sentences, which contain the common words and take turns to be the 'teacher' and check each other's work.

Please refer to your child's Homework Task sheet for further details.



## Active Literacy at Kirkhill Primary School



## A Guide for parents Spelling Primary 4-7

#PROUD – Perseverance, Resilience, Respect, Optimism, Unity, Diversity

## Introduction

The aim of this leaflet is to provide you with information about how your child is taught spelling at school and to allow you to support your child at home with spelling. This session we have made changes to how we teach spelling in school with a greater focus on spelling rules and patterns.

## In Class

Spelling is taught with one main focused lesson in the week, followed by short activities to reinforce the learning. The lesson will involve learning a spelling rule or pattern and pupils will be encouraged to practice putting the rule into context. Pupils will have the opportunity to consolidate what they have learned at home with their word lists, but the main focus is learning the spelling rule or pattern so that they can apply what they have learned in a variety of different activities such as writing or topic work.

Children have opportunities throughout the week to work with a partner, in groups or independently during active and written tasks.

## Chilli Challenge

Our pupils will be given a word list that they can learn throughout the week. These lists will all be centred around the spelling focus/rule for that week and will be differentiated into Mild, Hot, and Extra Hot words to support different abilities within the class. Pupils will be encouraged to challenge themselves each week with their spelling words and choose words from one of the lists. In addition to learning the spelling rules, pupils will often be challenged further to create their own list of words containing the weekly rule.

**ar/are**

Choose your Chilli Challenge...

Extra Hot	1. parliamentary 2. extracurricular 3. characteristic	4. carefulness 5. transparency
Hot	1. started 2. sparkler 3. prepared	4. grandparent 5. beware
Mild	1. bark 2. barn 3. care	4. rare 5. share

## Assessment

Children are no longer assessed purely based on a single word spelling test. Teachers can make judgements about a child's ability to spell words by placing them in a context e.g. a dictated sentence and it is hoped that pupils will apply their spelling knowledge during writing and literacy activities to show their understanding.

## Spelling Strategies

Pupils consolidate spelling rules using:

- Phoneme Knowledge (sounding out)
- Syllabification - breaking words down into syllables. The children can clap out words to identify syllables e.g. going/ An-drew
- Word Shape - Look at letter shape, size, ascending and descending letters.
- Tricky Letters - Looking at the position of tricky letters as an aid to spelling.
- Compound Words - Breaking the compound word into simple words e.g. **into** makes **in** and **to**.
- Mnemonic - using these can aid memory e.g. because - Big Elephants Can Add Up Sums Easily
- Analogy - If you know how to spell one word you can spell similar words e.g. if you can spell hill, you can spell mill, will, fill etc.
- Looking at patterns and rules and applying them to different words

## Multi-Sensory Spelling Activities

These activities are a great way to help your child spell and form letters. These are a super way of lowering the stress of homework and making learning more fun!

### Pyramid Writing

"Pyramid write" your spelling words.  
You must write neatly!

\*Example: home h  
ho  
hom  
home

### ABC Order

First write your spelling words in a list. Then write them in ABC order.

For an extra bonus, write your words in reverse ABC order!

### Scrambled Words

Fold a piece of paper three times lengthwise (making three long rectangular columns). Write your words in the first column. Then write them again with the letters all mixed up (scrambled) in the second column. Put your words aside. Come back later to unscramble your words. Write the unscrambled words in the third column.

### Adding My Words

Each letter has a value.

\*Consonants are worth 10.

\*Vowels are worth 5.

Write your spelling words. Then add up the value of each spelling word.

Example-  
said-  $10 + 5 + 5 + 10 = 30$

### Acrostic Poem

Choose one of your spelling words. Write an acrostic poem for that word. You must also ILLUSTRATE your poem.

\*Example: Fun in the sky.  
fly Laps around clouds.  
Yes! I'm free!

### Spelling Poem

Write a poem using several of your spelling words. Underline the words that you use. Illustrate your poem.

You can write any type of poem that you like. Enjoy!

### Story, Story

Write a story using ALL of your spelling words. Be sure to underline that you use. Illustrate your paragraph.

### Consonant Circle

Write each of your spelling words.

Then go back and circle all of the consonants in your words!

Don't forget to write neatly!

### Rhyming Words

Write each of your spelling words. Next to each word, write a rhyming word. If necessary, your rhyming word can be a nonsense word (as long as it follows the same spelling pattern).

\*Example: cries tries

### Connect the Dots

Write ten of your spelling words in dots.

Then connect the dots by tracing over them with a coloured pencil.

## Useful Spelling websites



- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>
- [https://www.spellzone.com/word\\_lists/games-368706.htm](https://www.spellzone.com/word_lists/games-368706.htm)
- <https://spellingframe.co.uk/>
- <https://www.theschoolrun.com/spelling-game>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhrd2p>
- <https://www.spellingshed.com>
- <https://www.spellingstars.com/>
- [https://www.spellzone.com/word\\_lists/games-368706.htm](https://www.spellzone.com/word_lists/games-368706.htm)



shutterstock.com