



# What's it all about . . . *Active Literacy*

*The Curricular Area: Literacy – Reading/Writing – otherwise known as Spelling*

*Why? To improve attainment in literacy in an active way.*

*What? New spelling words are taught as follows:*

- *Common Words* – words that the child will use and hear regularly. These often can't be sounded out e.g. *the, there, here, some*
- *Phonemes* – these are the sounds that the letters make or the sound that two or three sounds together make e.g. *a* as in *car*, *ea* as in *ear*, *sh* as in *shop*, *ch, th, ai, oy* etc
- *Spelling Rules* – these are taught from about P4 onwards e.g. *i* comes before *e* except after *c*, as in *thief* and *receive*, *q* is followed by *u* as in *queen*.

*How? A new set of common words and a new sound will be taught every week. The children will do fun spelling activities in school to help them learn. The children will repeat these words over and over again in school during the week.*

*These are the same common words and phonemes that your child will get for homework.*

*The more practise you can give your child each day the more they will remember them.*

*Jargon Explained . . .*



- *Five fingered approach* – *Say, Make/Break, Blend, Read, Write*
- *Flkonin Boxes* - *To aid children in breaking words into phonemes e.g. – birthday*

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