**Spelling Information**

Beginning this week, your child will bring home a list of words to study. We will be working on learning 12 words every week, followed by a spelling test on Friday which will include 3 “review” words from previous spelling lists. The words we will be learning are high frequency words (words used most often in printed materials), and subject-specific vocabulary that the children will encounter in their Science and Social Studies curriculum. The program has a special marking system that is used to direct students’ attention to which grapheme is used to make the sounds they hear in the words. The marking system is a way for students to remember which grapheme is to be used. When a list of the words is sent home each week for practice, your child should practice including any markings present within the word. Below is a list of ways you can practice spelling words with your child. Keep in mind that you may want to vary the method to add variety, or you may wish to stick to a routine and do the same thing each night. Again, daily practice will result in success! (Students should complete their spelling practice in the blue homework journal.)

**Have your child follow these steps:**

1. Read the spelling word aloud.
2. Cover the word and then print it.
3. Check and correct if necessary.
4. Have your child copy each word at least 5 times (they should be reading the words orally before printing each one) or, write a sentence using the word.

**Other ideas to practice spelling:**

* Give your child a practice spelling quiz before the test on Friday
* Quiz daily: Monday’s words on Monday

 Monday & Tuesday words on Tuesday

 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday words on Wednesday

 All 12 words on Thursday

**Marking System**

1. Underline vowels that say their name (long vowel sounds).
2. Underline multiple letter graphemes.
3. Double underline silent letters and graphemes that do not say what they should.
4. A number is placed above a grapheme using its 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th sound.
5. Final silent ‘e’ words have their own special markings.

Please note: On the spelling list the first column is the list of spelling words (this week’s list excluded). The second column includes special information about the word: its markings, spelling rules used, and a sentence. The words are taught with a space between syllables to show where the syllable breaks should be. Students write their words this way on the spelling quiz and are expected to include the markings, but we do not print our words like this when the words are used in sentences.