

Dear Parents,

August 31, 2011

Attached is your child's first **High Frequency (HF) Word Study List**. Please place this in a visible place (on the refrigerator, homework bulletin board, etc.) and encourage your child to practice the words on the list throughout the month. The lists are generated based on your child's performance on our initial testing of these words. If a word is a homonym, please encourage the practice of using the words in context – and please share helpful hints that may aid your child to remember these more difficult words.

During the month, parent volunteers will help me to individually assess each child. Ideally, your child will be tested twice per month, on Fridays. At the end of each month, I will add any words missed to the new set of monthly words, as well as pulling other words from the initial testing. If your child masters all of the words on the lists (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade), he/she will no longer receive monthly lists. I will notify you if/when this happens. If you don't receive your child's list at the start of each new month (in the Friday folder), please let me know. All children are starting the school year with a September list. **The complete list of all high frequency words can be found on our classroom website.**

How can you practice these words? Try to make it fun. Here are a few suggestions:

- Quiz them in the car or during breakfast
- Look for the words in any writing at home – point them out in books, magazines, lists, etc.
- Write the words on flashcards and use or post them around the house or in your child's bedroom/bathroom
- Let your child use shaving cream to practice writing the words on the sink/mirror or table (this can be fun practice for cursive writing, too!)
- Be sure any homework assignments have HF words spelled correctly.

**Thank you, in advance, for helping your child with this important “home study”.**

Mastering the list of High Frequency words will undoubtedly help your child to become a better speller, which will lead to helping her/him to be a better writer, and, because it is all intricately related, will also help to make him/her a better reader. I appreciate your commitment to help make this happen. Please let me know if you have any questions about these expectations.

Linda Taht