



August 2016

Dear First Grade Parents,

We are taking a different approach to spelling than the traditional spelling lists and weekly tests, and we are using a program called "Chunk Spelling." We will be focusing on word chunks, word patterns, and word families. Every week, we will focus on a new word chunk. (-at, -ake, -ed, etc.) These will be chunks your child will encounter in daily reading and writing practice. The class will generate a list of words based on the chunk for each week. They will be practicing their words using poems, games, puzzles, and other activities. We will not be giving a weekly test.

Each week we will also focus on 5 Word Wall Words. (Please see the attached sheet.) These words are essentially sight words first graders will use every day in their work. Your child's teacher will post the chunk and Word Wall Words on her class blog.

Please help your child practice these words at home even though there will not be a test over them. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

Sincerely,

Willard South First Grade Teachers

Word Wall Words

The following words will be learned 5 per week during the first grade year. These words are the "keys" to reading and writing. By reading, using the words orally, chanting, motion-spelling, "funky spelling" and writing the Word Wall words, students will gain ownership of them. This ownership will enable the students to correctly use the words in their daily reading and writing. The words will be taught in the order they are listed. Sometimes we will repeat a week or go over the "harder" words from before due to shorter weeks. Remember, we only want to focus on the week at hand. There is no need to work ahead. Also included are the word chunks we will be working on each week. If changes need to be made, your child's teacher will be sure to let you know. There will not be any spelling tests.

August 22 - Week 1: the, of, and, in, to (-ab words)

August 29 - Week 2: he, is, you, that, it (-at words)

Sept. 6 - Week 3: with, was, for, on, are (-ad words)

Sept. 12 - Week 4: am, car, eat, fun, girl (-an words)

Sept. 19 - Week 5: his, they, at, be, this (-ap words)

Sept. 26 - Week 6: from, I, have, had, not (-ed words)

Oct. 3 - Week 7: but, what, all, when, we (-it words)

Oct. 10 - Week 8: nice, ride, play, zoo, thing (-in words)

Oct. 17 - Week 9: there, can, your, said, to (-ip words)

Oct. 24 - Week 10: will, how, up, them, she (-op words)

Oct. 31 - Week 11: some, has, her, like, him (-ot words)

Nov. 7 - No school Monday and Tuesday - review

Nov. 14 - Week 12: see, no, make, who, people (-ub words)

Nov. 21 - No school Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - review

Nov. 28 - Week 13: my, made, over, did, down (-ug words)

Dec. 5 - Week 14: little, very, after, where, get (-all words)

Dec. 12 - Week 15: go, good, new, me, day (-ack words)

Dec. 19 - Half day Wednesday; No school Thursday & Friday - review

Jan. 5 & 6 - only 2 school days - review

Jan. 9 - Week 16: look, come, because, here, why (-ain words)

Jan. 17 - Week 17: best, friend, can't, won't, pretty (-ame words)

Jan. 23 - Week 18: off, went, old, tell, bit (-ake words)

Jan. 30 - Week 19: give, us, saw, house, want (-ash words)

Feb. 6 - Week 20: school, children, boy, animal, night (-ate words)

Feb. 13 - Week 21: brother, jump, kick, sister, talk (-eep words)

Feb. 21 - Week 22: they, said, what, going, put (-ell words)

Feb. 27 - Week 23: was, when, about, all, were (-est words)

March 6 - Week 24: there, school, people, away, today (-ick words)

March 13-17 - Spring Break

March 20 - Week 25: who, very, favorite, could, been (-ill words)

March 27 - Week 26: under, because, where, than, any (-ing words)

April 3 - Week 27: why, know, home, friend, rain (-ink words)

April 10 - Week 28: want, three, don't, sat, take (-oat words)

April 18 - Week 29: run, or, got, man, say (-unk words)

April 24 - Week 30: out, an, love, just, ball (-ow words)

May 1 - Week 31: then, now, came, that, our (-aw words)

May 8 - Week 32: Each teacher will choose 5 words to review with her class, and will let you know what those words will be. (-ay words)

May 15: - Last week of school - no spelling words