

Important Spelling Information

Dear Parents,

All First Grade classes use Foundations to teach the phonics portion of reading as well as introducing “Trick Words”. It is our sixth year using Foundations and we will again be implementing the spelling portion of the program.

The Foundations units usually last for two or three weeks. During each unit children are taught sounds and spelling patterns to use when reading, writing, and spelling. As the children master these skills they should be able to utilize the spelling patterns and apply them.

Following these expectations, first grade will not be giving the children a formal weekly spelling list of words to study and memorize. Instead, the children will be responsible for practicing the patterns at school and home. At the end of each unit we will assess the children’s knowledge of the skills with a unit test. The children will be assessed on letter sounds, spelling words using the patterns taught and spelling of trick words that have been introduced and practiced. This type of spelling assessment is more authentic and aligns better with the Common Core Standards.

As usual we will keep you up to date with your child’s progress. If you have any questions please contact your child’s teacher.

Respectfully,

Grade One Teachers