

Dear Parents,

This year there will be no weekly pre-quiz or end of week spelling quizzes in my class. The students will still be reviewing the five high frequency words each week and working daily on their spelling development through "Word Work" activities in the Daily 5 program. I still believe that spelling skills are fostered best by developing spelling strategy through direct teaching of word families, analogies, meanings, and encoding and frequent implementation into meaningful writing but also through a variety of fun and stimulating activities. A non-quizzing approach focuses more on a problem solving activity than short-term memorization.

Weekly spelling tests are not a requirement on the Alberta Provincial Curriculum for Grade One English Language Arts. The specific outcomes are to encourage students to check for obvious spelling errors and missing words within their writing; to indentify and use an increasing number of words and phrases elated to personal interests and topics of study; and to experiment with letters, sounds, words and word patterns to learn new words.

If you wish to support your child with spelling development a list of words can be found on my Plone site under spelling.

If you have any further queries or questions please contact me.

Jacqui Pryor