

Parents,

Your child will be bringing home a collection of P.A.W.S. (Phonemic Awareness and Word Study) words weekly that have been introduced in class on Monday morning. Each night of the week your child is expected to do a different activity to ensure that these words and the spelling principles they represent are mastered. These activities have been modeled and practiced in school, so your child can teach you how to do them.

Monday

Remind your child to **sort the words** into categories like the ones we did in class. Your child should read each word aloud during this activity. Ask your child to explain to you why the words are sorted in a particular way – what does the sort reveal about spelling in general? Ask your child to sort them a second and third time as fast as they can. You may even want to time them - encourage them to beat their previous time again and again!

Tuesday

Do a **Writing Sort** with your child to prepare them for the P.A.W.S. test Friday. As you call out the words in a random order, your child should sort them in categories. Call out any words that your child misspells a second or even a third time.

Wednesday

Do a **Blind Sort** with your child. Lay down a word from each category as a header and then read the rest of the words aloud. Your child must indicate where the word goes **WITHOUT** seeing it. Lay it down and let your child move it if they have made a mistake – then switch and let your child read each word aloud and you indicate where each word belongs.

Thursday

Assist your child in doing a **Word Hunt**, looking for words in a book they have already read that have the same sounds or patterns that they are working with. Try to find as many as you can!

Thank you for your support! Together we can help your child make valuable progress!