



January 1st, 2017

Dear Families,

This is our third year participating in the *Great American Spell Check!* Here's how it works: your child studies grade-specific word lists and are tested in their classrooms. The three students who spell the most words correctly from each class will then move on to represent their class in the schoolwide spelling bees!

Your student needs your help in the following ways:

- **Monday, January 9th:** Teachers will send home study words.
*Students should begin studying words at their *ability* level. Once they have mastered those they can move on. Example:
 - Have a 1st grader doing 3rd grade spelling? Start them on the 3rd grade level words!
 - Have a 5th grader in 3rd grade spelling? Start them on 3rd grade level words!*Don't let your students get caught up in comparing themselves to others. Help them find their own growth and excitement!
- **January 9th-February 21st:** Encourage your students to practice, practice, practice!
- **February 21st-24th:** *SpellCheck* Tests!
 - These tests will be done in the classroom to determine the top three spellers from each room.
- **Friday, February 24th :** The top three students will be chosen from each classroom to participate in the school-wide spelling bee.
- **Tuesday February 28th:** School-wide spelling bees will take place in the gymnasium!
 - **LE- 9-10am**
 - **UE- 11-12pm**
 - **Junior High-1:30-2:30pm**

The top two students from the school will go to the State Spelling Bee in March!

Your support is crucial in the following areas;

- Encourage your student's participation.
- Help your students learn to correctly spell the 50 words and then move on to spell as many as possible!

I hope that you share our excitement about our school's participation in the *Great American SpellCheck*. Together we can encourage strong spelling skills and a love of literacy! Please be sure to ask questions if you have them.

Sincerely,
MMA Staff & Faculty