Kindergarten Sight Word Program

During the course of the year, Kindergarten students will participate in a Sight Word Program that will assist them in the development of their reading and writing skills. Sight words are high frequency words that we recall from our visual memory. We read them through instant recognition, without the need to stop and decode or ‘sound out’ the word. As your child develops their recognition of sight words their reading will become more fluent and they will gain confidence in their reading ability.

The most important factor in successful sight word recall is high repetition of word exposure. Your child will need to see the word multiple times to effectively commit it to memory.

Below is a compilation of some strategies and activities that you may like to use at home to enhance your child’s sight word program:

- **Mix up the order:** Make sure you cut up your child’s sight words and practise them in a different order every day. Learning them from the original grid format may lead to memorisation of the order of words rather than recall of the word itself.
- **Sight word Analysis:** Discuss each word and what it looks like. Does it have tall or short letters? How many letters in the word? Are there any tricks we can use to help remember it?
- **Key Ring:** Place all your child’s sight words on a keyring and use this as a tactile tool to help daily recitation.
- **Front Door Recall:** Stick all of your child’s sight words to the front door and have them repeat them every time you leave the house.
- **Colourful Sight words:** Write your child’s sight words in large ‘bubble writing’ and ask them to colour them in.
- **Card Games:** Duplicate your child’s sight words and play Snap, Go Fish or Memory.
- **Tactile Learning:** Place some sand or flour on a paper plate and ask your child to write their sight words.
- **Playdough:** Ask your child to model their sight words using play dough.
- **Visual Learning:** Ask your child to draw a picture to represent their sight word.
- **Hide and Seek:** Hide the sight words around the room and ask your child to tell you each word as they find them.
- **Car Park:** Make a grid like a car park with your child’s sight words and ask them to place a toy car on the sight word you call out.
- **Noughts and Crosses:** Draw a noughts and crosses grid and write one sight word in each box. Ask your child to say it as they mark off that square in the game.
- **Bingo:** Ask your child to choose 6 of their sight words and play bingo as you turn over their sight word cards.
- **Hop Scotch:** Place your child’s sight words on the ground or write them in chalk on the ground and ask them to say them as they jump from one to the next.
- **Letter Tiles:** Use magnetic letter tiles to make the words.
- **Minute to Win it**: How many sight words can your child say in one minute?
- **Swat**: Lay your child’s sight words out in front of them and ask them to tap each word with a fly swat as you say them.
- **Silly Sentence**: Ask your child to use the sight word in a sentence.
- **Sight word Search**: Ask your child to find a focus sight word or sight words in a piece of text.
- **Revise**: Make sure you frequently revisit all of your child’s sight words in addition to learning their new set of words.

The Kindergarten Sight Word Program is an integral part of your child’s reading development. The Kindergarten team of teachers encourage parents to remember that all children develop at their own rate and our focus is on strong, consistent recall and accuracy rather than rapid progress through sight word lists.

Thank you for your cooperating and support,
The Kindergarten Teachers.