

## Homework – the 200 Magic Words and 225 Gemstone Words

Dear Parents/Guardians,



Epping Views Primary School highly values the support parents provide to our Literacy learning program by assisting students at home with daily reading and spelling practise, especially in the early years. A key part of this program is students learning to read and spell the most frequently used words.

It is important that students are able to first read and recognise the most frequently used words, then develop the ability to spell them. At Epping Views Primary School, we use the 200 Magic Words and 225 Gemstones Words to do this. The lists are divided into colour or gemstone levels.

Families are given access to all Magic and Gemstone Words to practise at home. Parents are encouraged to support their child to continue practising words until they have mastered the reading and spelling of the 425 most frequently used words. Their reading and spelling of these words will be monitored at school through daily learning tasks. Students will not be individually tested at school.

You can support your child by practising reading and spelling the words daily as a part of their homework. It is important that students are able to recognise, read and spell the words automatically to assist them with their reading and writing progress, as well as all other areas of learning.

Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Kind regards,  
Classroom Teachers

**Aim: For students to be able to automatically read and spell the 425 Most Frequently used words.**

1. Gold

2. Red

3. Blue

4. Green

5. Orange

6. Indigo

7. Violet

1 – 100

8. Pink

9. Purple

10. Aqua

11. Lime

12. Lemon

101 – 200

13. Ruby

14. Emerald

15. Topaz

16. Pearl

17. Sapphire

201 – 300

18. Quartz

19. Opal

20. Garnet

21. Moonstone

22. Amethyst

23. Diamond

301 – 425



**At home, parents can support children to learn reading the words by:**

- Listening to your child reading the words using **PAUSE**, **PROMPT**, **PRAISE** to encourage:
  - **PAUSE** when your child gets stuck and wait to see what they do
  - **PROMPT** your child by encouraging them to use the sounds in the words
  - **PRAISE** your child for all efforts
- Telling your child words that they don't know, and getting them to repeat the words after you
- Playing games with the words with your child like Memory, Snap, Hangman and Go Fish
- Having their word list on the fridge
- Other ideas to help your child to learn the words include:
  - Making the words using magnetic letters on the fridge
  - Finding the words in books your child is reading to you or with you
  - Getting your child to write the words in sand
  - Getting your child to make the word using playdoh

**At home, parents can support children to learn spelling the words by:**

- Correcting the spelling of the words that are incorrect, getting them to repeat the spelling of the words after you
- Reminding your child about words they already know when they write
- Having their word list on the fridge
- Ideas to help your child to learn how to spell the words include:
  - Making the words using magnetic letters on the fridge
  - Finding the words in books your child reading to you or with you
  - Taking turns to spell the words when you are in the car
  - Playing a game of hangman or other word games
  - Practising writing sentences with their words in them