



December 14, 2009

Dear Students and Parents*,

The spelling bee season has officially started! We will have a written preliminary spelling bee on January 4. The top spellers will then go on to our Montclair Elementary Spelling Bee, which will be held on Tuesday, January 10. Each 3rd, 4th, and 5th grader is eligible to participate. All students are encouraged to wear yellow and black to support our spellers.

After our school wide bee, the Oakland Unified School District is holding its spelling bee on February 9, 2012 only for 4th and 5th graders. The 4th and 5th grade winners from our school bee will be participating. Montclair's overall spelling bee champion will go on to the San Francisco Chronicle Spelling Bee beginning February 21.

Check out the study resources on the free, interactive web site, www.myspellit.com. *Spell It!* is the official study guide for the Scripps National Spelling Bee program. We are asking students to study the words on their own free time. You may find the study words for our school spelling bee on Montclair's website, or ask your child's teacher. We will also give out the study lists to interested students during practice meetings. The written spelling bee and the oral bee will contain words from these study guides.

Another helpful site is spellingbee.com. You can take a quiz and check your results if you have speakers on your computer. Another helpful area at this site is the *Study Zone*. There are many resources there to help you prepare. Merriam-Webster's *Word Central.com* also provides a fun way to study for the bee.

We are looking forward to working with you. Best wishes from the Spelling Bee Committee!

Mrs. Bloom, Mrs. Cruz, Mrs. Metoyer, and Ms. Seltzer

- Students who find the misspelled words in this letter and the reason they are not spelled correctly will get a small prize. Please write the words and reasons down in legible handwriting and turn them in to Mrs. Cruz's box in the office. Don't forget to include your name and your teacher.

Questions? E-mail: karena.cruz@ousd.k12.ca.us