



October 2018 Newsletter

## Mrs. Thomas

Benchmark assessments have been completed for reading comprehension, writing, oral reading fluency, and rapid recognition of high frequency words. A phonics assessment will be administered in the next 2 weeks. Instruction is well on its way in my intervention groups. I am enjoying teaching your child!

Often parents ask, "What can I do at home to enrich my child?" The following are excellent suggestions:

1. Use the bag of books I provided, along with library books and any other type of text to read with your child at night. Thank you to all the parents who gave permission for me to send books home!
2. Talk with your child about what you are reading together. Encourage your child to ask questions and "test" you to see if **you** can answer them.
3. Practice the high frequency words I provided in the Zip-lock bag. These are essential building blocks of reading, and should be quickly and easily recognized by young readers. Practice as directed on the letter I sent.
4. Have your child practice any fluency work I send home. Have your child read the passage with expression. This is not just about improving his/her reading rate; it's also about accuracy, expression and phrasing. I tell students that they should not sound like "choppy robots" when they read. They should try to sound like interesting storytellers.
5. If I send home phonics practice, it will be an extension of what we have worked on together at school. Please allow time for additional practice at home. Review it with your child.

Thanks, everyone!