If you are not familiar with the program, the Sitton spelling program used in 4th grade differs from a traditional spelling program in that there is no weekly spelling list, and no weekly Friday tests.  Instead, we regularly assess student spelling of a group of “Core Words,” which are the highest frequency words used in writing.  The list of “Core Words” begins in earlier grades and is added to each year.  The word tests assess spelling of these high frequency words, and they are not assessed only once (because then students tend to learn them for the test and forget them later!).  Instead, the words in each word test reappear throughout the year, reinforcing long term memory of correct spellings.

When we take a Word Test at the end of each unit (not necessarily on Fridays), the words that your child missed will be written out correctly at the bottom of the test.  Students then copy these words into their Word Study notebook, as well as their assignment notebooks.  These become their “Words to Learn.”

It is important for each student to spend time at home practicing the words they missed on any given word test.

Please encourage your child to practice those words (written in their assignment notebooks), especially if they have a light night of homework.