**Vocabulary Week 13**

1. **Melancholy-** gloomy attitude

Scrooge took his melancholy dinner in his usual *melancholy* tavern; and having read all the newspapers, and beguiled the rest of the evening with his banker's-book, went home to bed.

1. **Inexplicable-** unable to be explained

It was with great astonishment, and with a strange, *inexplicable* dread, that as he looked, he saw this bell begin to swing.

1. **Incredulous-** not willing to believe; unbelieving

Though he looked the phantom through and through, and saw it standing before him; though he felt the chilling influence of its death-cold eyes; and marked the very texture of the folded kerchief bound about its head and chin, which wrapper he had not observed before; he was still *incredulous*, and fought against his senses.

1. **Specter-** a ghostly appearing figure

The truth is, that he tried to be smart, as a means of distracting his own attention, and keeping down his terror; for the *specter’s* voice disturbed the very marrow in his bones.

1. **Infernal-** characteristic of an uncontrolled and intense fire

There was something very awful, too, in the spectre's being provided with an *infernal* atmosphere of its own.

1. **Despondent-** without or almost without hope

Not a latent echo in the house, not a squeak and scuffle from the mice behind the paneling, not a drip from the half-thawed water-spout in the dull yard behind, not a sigh among the leafless boughs of one *despondent* poplar, not the idle swinging of an empty store-house door, no, not a clicking in the fire, but fell upon the heart of Scrooge with a softening influence, and gave a freer passage to his tears.

1. **Comely-** very pleasing to the eye

Near to the winter fire sat a beautiful young girl, so like that last that Scrooge believed it was the same, until he saw her, now a *comely* matron, sitting opposite her daughter.

1. **Livid-** furiously angry

Suppose somebody should have got over the wall of the back-yard, and stolen it, while they were merry with the goose -- a supposition at which the two young Cratchits became *livid.*

1. **Dispel-** force to go away

The mention of his name cast a dark shadow on the party, which was not *dispelled* for full five minutes.

1. **Affability-** a disposition to be friendly and approachable

It was a much greater surprise to Scrooge to recognize it as his own nephew's and to find himself in a bright, dry, gleaming room, with the Spirit standing smiling by his side, and looking at that same nephew with approving *affability*.