Assign several short written assignments in the first week; practice names ("There you go, Sasha.") as you return papers.

Take photos of students wearing nametags. Review the photos before class. Attach student photos to interest inventories so that you can relate faces with experiences and affinities.

Identify a unique physical feature and then think of a funny sentence involving that feature and the student’s name: 
Tim has a tiny tooth.

Create rhymes to aid your auditory and visual memory: 
Fred eats monkey bread.

Prioritize talking to a different group of five students every day for the first few weeks of school. Use their names frequently during your conversation.

Greet students by name as they enter the classroom. Ask for help from students whose names you cannot recall.

When students tell you their names, say it back to them and confirm the pronunciation.