

THE STELLA MARIS SPELL-A-THON

Friday, October 12th



Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome Back to School! The Annual Spell-a-thon is here!

The 2006 Spell-a-thon was a great success, thanks to your generous support. The students raised an amazing \$28,000, with the proceeds going directly to the purchase of the following: refurbishing the IMacs in the computer lab, set of new ebooks, 4 new Smart Boards, new library furniture, new books, website redesign, SMA network improvements and other wish list items for the teachers. Please take a minute to see these improvements in your classrooms and computer lab. Your generous support of SMA fundraisers does make a difference!

We are hoping to again surpass previous Spell-a-thons by raising at least \$30,000. We can reach this goal if every student raises approximately \$140 in pledge money. Our objective is to fund a science enrichment program and facility improvements that include shade for the junior and senior yards.

Parents and family members can also help the students raise money by becoming a Spell-a-thon Sponsor. A sponsorship form is enclosed; please indicate if you would like your sponsorship to go any students and classes as they are competing for prizes. All sponsorships and pledges of any amount will help us reach our goal of \$140 per student.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS!

Enclosed is a spelling list developed by your teacher. Students collect pledges of any amount of money for each word they spell correctly. The Spell-a-thon is a written test that will be given in the class by the teachers on Friday, October 12th. Great Prizes will be awarded to those students and classes that raise the most money. In addition, all teachers will receive \$100 in Scrip if their class achieves an average of 85% or better on the test. So please study hard and collect lots of pledges!

Friday, September 14

Spell-a-thon packets, pledge sheets and word lists are distributed. Students begin collecting pledges and sponsorships from family, friends, neighbors and co-workers.

Friday, September 21

Every Friday up to the Spell-a-thon, a raffle will be held for a prize. For every \$25 worth of pledges, students will receive a ticket for the raffle. Students will show their pledge sheet to their teacher by Friday morning. Teachers will initial the pledges and submit raffle tickets into the drawing for the student. The student keeps their pledge sheet so they can continue to collect pledges. The winner will be announced the following Monday.

Friday, September 28

Raffle for students with \$25 or more in pledges. Please show your teacher your pledge sheet by Friday morning to get your tickets in the drawing.

Friday, October 5

Raffle for students with \$25 or more in pledges. Please show your teacher your pledge sheet by Friday morning to get your tickets in the drawing.

Friday, October 12

Test Day! Spell-a-thon tests to be given in the classrooms. The last raffle for students with \$25 or more in pledges will be held. Please show your teacher your pledge sheet by Friday morning to get your tickets in the drawing.

Tuesday, October 16

Corrected Spell-a-thon tests will be returned to the students along with directions to start collecting pledge money.

Monday, October 29

All collected pledge money is due in the office by 3:15pm. If possible, please submit all pledge money in a check payable to SMA PTO.

Friday, November 2

The winning classes and students with the most funds raised will be announced and prizes will be awarded.

HELPFUL REMINDERS

- We advise not letting your child solicit door to door pledges without an adult.
- Please submit all collected pledge money and donations in a check payable to SMA PTO.
- All pledges are due Monday, OCTOBER 29th by 3:15 pm.
- Students are encouraged to write thank you notes to family and friends who sponsored them.
- Extra copies of word lists and sponsor sheets are available in the office and on-line at www.stellamarisacademy.org.
- Please consider becoming a sponsor of the 2007 Spell-a-thon.

Thank you again for your support!