



December 20, 2018

Dear Parents,

This year our school will participate in the 9th Annual Great American SpellCheck, a program that has already raised over \$100,000 for our school. As you may know, it is not a traditional fundraiser -100% of the money raised benefits our school, involves no students knocking on the doors of strangers, and is rooted in academics.

Here's how it works: Your child studies 25 - 50 spelling words and collects pledges from family and friends for every word that he or she spells correctly on the day of the Great American SpellCheck test. Not only does your child improve his or her spelling skills, but our school enjoys the financial benefits! A WIN-WIN for all! Our goal is to raise \$20,000 this year to make further improvements to our school. Students who bring in the most pledge money in their class/school will win an amazing prize! Gift-cards will be awarded to our runners up. Here is the Great American SpellCheck fund-raising timeline:

- Thursday, December 20, 2018 - Student will receive their spelling words and Pledge Sheets. Start studying words and gathering pledges! Be sure to see your family and friends over the holidays!
- Friday, January 11, 2019 - Students must return pledge sheets to Teacher.
- Friday, January 18, 2019 - We will conduct the Great American SpellCheck at 9am in homeroom!
- Friday, January 25, 2019 - Teachers will send graded tests to Mrs. Pasqua to match to pledge forms. They will then be sent home in backpacks, so students can gather uncollected pledge money.
- Wednesday, January 30, 2019 - St. Thomas School Spelling Bee for grades 3-8 class winners
- Friday, February 22, 2019- This is the deadline for supporters to return their pledged funds.
- TBA - Our Spell Check School Celebration with prizes and giveaways!

We are looking forward to a successful fundraiser, and a wonderful opportunity for our students to have fun while learning valuable foundational skills!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Theresa Pasqua/Spell Check Coordinator