



SFA Spelling Bee

What are the smartest kinds of bees? Spelling bees!

This year St. Francis will be participating in a School wide spelling bee. Grades 1-8 will participate in classroom spelling bees during Catholic School's week. One member grade 5-8 member of St. Francis may be chosen to participate in a 2010 Scripps District Spelling bee this spring at Lombardi's in Randolph. Date to be announced! Spelling Bees can be a fun way to challenge students to be dedicated to accurate spelling. Spelling bees are not just for natural spellers. All students should feel proud of their accomplishments and their dedication to improving their own spelling skills. Our classrooms will be encouraging all students to participate using cooperative groups and spelling games. Read how spelling bees have become a part of our American history and culture.

Seen on CNN:

☺ A student at the National Spelling Bee had been given a particularly difficult word to spell. Apparently having some trouble knowing how to start, the student asked if he could buy a vowel.

History:

- ☺ The word bee has historically been used to describe a get-together where a specific action is being carried out, like a husking bee, a quilting bee, or an apple bee.
- ☺ The earliest evidence of the phrase *spelling bee* in print dates back to 1825, although the contests had apparently been held before that year.
- ☺ In the United States, spelling bees are annually held from local levels up to the level of the Scripps National Spelling Bee which awards a cash prize to the winner. The first one was held in 1925. The National Spelling Bee is sponsored by English-language newspapers and educational foundations; it is also broadcast on ESPN. Since 2006, the National Spelling Bee's championship rounds have been broadcast on ABC live. Source: Wikipedia

On Wikipedia.com check out spelling bees in the popular American culture. Many movies and tv shows have spelling bee references: A Boy named Charlie Brown, Akeelah and the Bee, Full House, and Suite Life of Zach and Cody just to name a few...

Here are some online resources if you are interested in learning more about spelling bees.

www.spellingbee.com (*The Scripps official site*)

www.myspellit.com

<http://www.wordcentral.com/> (*games on Merriam Webster's Word Central*)

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spelling_bee/ (*spelling bee information*)

www.learner.org/interactives/spelling/ (*online spelling bee*)

<http://www.visualthesaurus.com/bee/> : (*online spelling tournament*)