

INSIDE SPELLMAN

CARDINAL SPELLMAN HIGH SCHOOL'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

June 2009 Vol. 32 /No. 9

A Message From...The President

Dear Parents and Friends of Spellman,

As the final edition of this year's Newsletter gets ready to make its appearance online, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of our Spellman parents for entrusting your sons and daughters to our care and guidance during the past year. You and your children have been a blessing for this school.

Since this will be my last "official" letter to each of you, our Spellman families, I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your dedication and your friendship over so many years. As I have mentioned before, being principal/president of Cardinal Spellman High School has been the highlight of my career. I was welcomed into this Spellman family as teacher in August of 1974 and I have discovered anew each day that the term "family" is not just part of a slogan here, but rather a culture of caring that reflects the legacy of the Sisters of Saint Joseph and is imbedded in our mission of community service.

Together, over the past several years, we have established a significant endowment fund of over 1.7 million dollars. It is my deepest wish that this fund will continue to grow so that a Spellman education will be affordable for **all** deserving students. Together, we have introduced new academic, athletic and extra-curricular programs; our student enrollment has grown significantly; a new governance structure has been implemented; student services have been enhanced; fundraising and friendraising have both flourished; the fine arts, drama and outreach programs have expanded and continue to enrich our educational program; and we have implemented many plant and campus updates and renovations. Clearly, Spellman has never been as strong as it is today.

I trust that I speak for all the parents, and even for the students, when I extend our Spellman gratitude to the faculty and staff of this school. Their example of loving concern for each Spellman student, their fidelity and their dedication all combine to make Cardinal Spellman High School a very special place for young people to grow and learn.

In closing, I ask that you keep our entire Spellman family in your thoughts and prayers and that you commit yourselves to continuing your efforts to advance the mission of this wonderful

school and to collaborate with one another in weaving our proud past into a powerful future. Know that I am counting on your prayers too, as I begin a new chapter in my life.

May you all have a very relaxing, happy and peace-filled summer!
Happy Father's Day to all our Spellman Dads!

Peace!

Sister Thomasine Knowlton, CSJ
President



The President's "*Sequere Deum Award*" went to Mr. Edward G. Donga III.

A Message From...The Principal

How quickly time passes! I cannot believe that we have turned the calendar to the final month of the school year. As we all look forward to the school year ending, I encourage all students to continue to work hard to their last exam of the school year.

We have been truly blessed with the many and varied gifts of the class of 2009 and we offer them our heartfelt congratulations and blessings as they continue on their journey. Please remember, graduates and parents, that Spellman is always your home!

The final day for students will be on Tuesday, June 16th. On this day, students will have an opportunity to buy and sell their books to other students. Freshman students will be able to pass in their books with their names, homeroom and cost of the book on a post it note. These books will be collected and used at the used book sale, Tuesday evening

from 6-7pm. Students **whose books are sold** will receive a check for these books made out to the parents. These checks will be mailed out by the end of June.

I encourage all of you, parents of freshmen, sophomores, and juniors to contact any of us at Spellman when you have questions or concerns. As always we appreciate any feedback that you can give us.

I would like to thank all of you who have been a support to Sr. Thomasine, Mrs. Davis and me. We depend on your continued support.

Have a safe and happy summer!

Ms. Dorothy Lynch
Principal

Summer Hours

Main office will be open throughout the summer
Monday – Thursday 9:00-3:00
Except for the week of July 26th



The Principal's Award went to Miss Julie Nickley

A Message From...The Assistant Principal

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

Parents, please take careful note of the following information pertinent to final examinations for all students.

- Final exams will begin on Thursday, June 11 and end on Tuesday, June 16, 2009.
Thursday MODS A and B
Friday MODS C and D
Monday MODS E and F
Tuesday MOD G and **APPROVED MAKE UP EXAMS**
- All students are required to take final exams in every subject unless they have been exempted from **ONE** exam because of perfect attendance and punctuality or no office detentions and/or **ONE** exam if they have been on the honor roll for the first three terms.
- Each exam is seventy-five minutes long and is preceded by a twenty-minute reading period in the exam room.

SCHEDULE

Thur 11 th – Mon 15th		Tuesday 16th	
7:45	Opening prayer	7:45	Opening prayer
7:55	Report to first exam	7:50	Homeroom duties
8:15	First exam begins	8:50	Report to exam
9:30	First exam ends	9:10	Exam begins
9:35	Report to second exam	10:25	Exam ends
9:55	Second exam begins	10:25	Announcements
11:10	Second exam ends	10:30	Dismissal
11:10	Announcements		
11:15	Dismissal		

Brockton busses will be here at 11:30 Thur. – Mon.

Brockton busses will be here at 10:30 on Tues.

- Students with outstanding tuition and/or comprehensive fee will not be eligible to start exams until all financial responsibilities have been settled. Students not eligible to take exams at this time may only make them up before June 30th. If you have any questions please call Ms. Lynch.
- All students must wear the uniform tennis shirt and will follow the guidelines in the handbook (page 19) to complete their dress down attire.
- On each exam day all students will report to homeroom at 7:40 and be ready to begin morning prayer at 7:45. Dismissal on Thursday, Friday and Monday for all students will be at 11:15. Dismissal on Tuesday will be at 10:30.
- **Early Dismissals are not permitted on exam days.**

- Students who may be absent from exams for extreme reasons **may only be excused and eligible for make up exams by speaking with the Principal or Assistant Principal.**
- **All students** are expected to be in school on Tuesday for an extended homeroom period.

ACADEMIC FAILURE

If a student is in danger of failing a course for the year Ms. Davis, Assistant Principal, will contact you during the first week of June regarding details.

Once again we would like to remind you of the long-standing policy regarding academic failure. A student who fails one or two subjects for the year must remove the failure(s) by successful completion of those courses during Summer School in order to return to Spellman in the fall. A student who has failed three or more subjects for the year must continue his/her education elsewhere. No summer session can adequately compensate for such an extensive academic deficiency.

Information on summer school programs offered by several of the surrounding communities is available in the CSHS Guidance Office. Spellman does **NOT** offer a Summer Session.

BOOK ORDERS FOR 2009-2010

For the coming school year all students will order textbooks on line at www.varsitybooks.com. We will be sending specific instructions to parents in June and these instructions will also be available on our website www.spellman.com. Students should try to purchase used books from other students before purchasing them on line. Juniors had the opportunity to purchase used books from seniors on Wednesday evening, May 27th.

Freshmen and sophomores will be given the opportunity to purchase used books from sophomores and juniors on Tuesday, June 16th if they haven't made arrangements for private sales beforehand. Students will be called by class to report to the cafeteria during the homeroom period to sell/buy books. Students should be prepared to have cash on that day if they wish to purchase books.

There are only a few books available for sale at Spellman in September. We urge you and your child to arrange to buy used textbooks.

Members of the Class of 2013

Students who wish to sell books to the Incoming Freshmen, Class of 2014, may pass in books (**provided they are in excellent condition**) to their subject teachers at the beginning of their exam. They should put an envelope taped to the inside cover of the book with their name and price of book. Only books that are deemed in good condition will be sold.

USED BOOK SALE FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN, CLASS OF 2014

There will be a used book sale for the class of 2014 on Tuesday evening June 16th from 6:00 -7:00pm.

TEXTBOOK BUY BACK OPPORTUNITY

We will have a representative from Varsity Books on campus Tuesday evening, June 16th from 5:30 – 7:00pm to buy textbooks from students who have been unable to sell their textbooks on their own. Parents/students will be issued a check or a credit with Varsity Books for all purchases. There will be no money exchanged at this event.

Ms. Susan Davis
Assistant Principal

Correction!

It has come to our attention that there was an important miss-print in the newspaper regarding the 2009 Class Valedictorian. Cardinal Spellman's 2009 Valedictorian was Michaela Immar. Congratulations Michaela, job well done. We wish you the best of luck at Boston University next year!



Religious Studies and Campus Ministry

The Parent Prayer Group will be holding its last meeting for this school year on Wednesday evening, June 10th at 7 p.m. in Room #104. All parents, teachers, and mentors of our students are invited to join us as we pray for the intentions of the entire community. Mrs. Margi Mannke, a powerful pray-er and parent of a Spellman alum, has done an outstanding job of leading this group for its second year. Heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Margi! We look forward to her continued leadership for another year beginning in the fall.

The final school-wide Mass for the year was held on Tuesday, May 5th in the Spellman auditorium. Fr. Oscar Pratt, a very special member of the Spellman family, was the celebrant of a very lively and Spirit-filled liturgy! It was further enlivened and enriched

by our talented music ministry under the direction of Mrs. Dorrie Bessette. The incoming members of God Squad 2009-2010 were welcomed by the community. Other senior ministry candidates will be welcomed at future liturgies to be held in the fall.

The newest members of Prayer Posse B recently held an evening of retreat to come together, pray, and share social time with refreshments. All other senior ministry students will have similar opportunities at the beginning of the new school year.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2010—the week of January 31 through February 6th is “Catholic Schools—Dividends for Life.” The entire school will be joining in various activities that will be planned and coordinated by members of Prayer Posse!

Members of the Religious Studies and Campus Ministry Department would like to extend to students, faculty, and families many blessings for a safe, healthy, and holy summer vacation!



Guidance

SENIORS

As the Seniors leave Cardinal Spellman High School, we wish them happiness and success and assure them of our prayers. Next year we will be continuing two relatively new programs for our recent alums. Reverse College Day will take place shortly after Spellman returns from Christmas break in January. All members of the Class of 2009 will be invited to return to Spellman for several hours that day to speak informally about their respective colleges to the members of the Junior and Senior classes. A mailing will go out on this program around Thanksgiving. In that same mailing we include a Follow-Up Survey that we would like all members of the class to complete and return to us. The information and feedback we receive will be studied carefully and used to make improvements in our program.

JUNIORS

The counselors have been very busy working with the members of the Junior Class both individually and in groups. The College Information Program on April 14th was well attended, and the two speakers, Brian Murphy from Stonehill College and Steven Kessman from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, gave excellent advice both from a professional and parental point of view. Every junior received the College Admissions Handbook we publish, and hopefully this will be an excellent resource for students and parents over the next year.

In order to create a college admissions partnership among students, parents, counselors, and teachers, the Guidance Counselors mailed to each student's parent/guardian a "Brag Sheet" for families to complete. Once returned this information will assist the counselors in not only guiding the paths for the students, but also will provide us valuable insights that we can use in writing our letters of recommendation.

Students have also received a Student Portfolio Questionnaire that we would like them to complete and return to us prior to the close of the school year. If the students put time and thought into filling out this worksheet, they will be more prepared to answer questions on applications and in college interviews. The juniors also received "Request for Teacher Recommendation" forms to be filled out and distributed to teachers prior to the end of this school year.

Finally, if you plan to visit colleges this summer, check the colleges' websites or contact the admissions offices for information on tours or interviews. All juniors have been given unofficial transcripts, and those, along with the junior year report card, could be informally used at interviews, but not with college applications.

SOPHOMORES

During the months of February and March in their Computer Application class, sophomores were introduced to a software package, My Road. This program helps students to discover their personality traits so that they can research careers, college majors, and colleges that match their needs. Although members of the senior and junior classes have had access to another College Admissions software program, Naviance, the sophomores have not. At the beginning of June, we created accounts for each member of the Class of 2011 in the student's Computer Application class, and the students can now access Naviance at home. This program will allow students to do college searches, keep track of their applications, sign up to meet with the college representatives who will be visiting Spellman, and compare their GPA's and SATs to the students were accepted at each college. For parents who want to get a head start on the college admissions process, use the College Board website at www.collegeboard.com.

Freshmen, Sophomore, and Juniors

Final exams are fast approaching. The guidance counselors shared advice and helpful hints with the freshmen last January on how to prepare for Midterms. The teachers' input is applicable now and might be helpful to all of our students in preparation for finals. Students are reminded to start preparing now using extra exercises in the text books, chapter reviews, completed assignments, and previous test and quiz materials. Many teachers will provide worksheets, study guides, or give a verbal outline of the final to assist in preparation. Students can also form study groups, exchange notes and get extra help from teachers. Most importantly, the students need to be organized! Just a reminder, the final exam grade is prorated on the report card and carries one-half the weight of a term grade. Student appointments are continuing. At this time of year, topics include tweaking course requests for next year and discussing academic with those students struggling with the increased workload of cumulative courses.

Advancement Happenings

The Advancement Team would like to extend a sincere thanks to all of those faculty, staff, parents, alumni, students and friends who helped to make this, our 50th Anniversary year, so very special. Your time, talent and treasure created a celebration that will forever be a part of the history of Spellman.

**Sister Thomasine,
We will miss you dearly! Your legacy at Spellman is unparalleled. Rest assured
Spellman's future is bright and that your legacy is safe in our hands. Enjoy
retirement!**

Your Advancement Team

Thank you to all the students and parents who participated in the "Empty Your Pockets" day for Sister Thomasine. You raised \$1,346.63 for the Sister Thomasine Knowlton, CSJ Scholarship!



Golf Classic-June 22, 2009

This makes a great Father's Day gift!

The annual Cardinal Spellman High School Golf Classic will be held on Monday, June 22nd at **LeBaron Hills Country Club in Lakeville**. The player fees are \$160 per person and a foursome for \$640.

The day begins with registration, the driving range and lunch. The shotgun start is 11:30 AM and the day ends with the chip-off, dinner, auction and awards. Sponsors are welcome. You can register online at www.spellmanalumni.com/2009GC or call the Advancement Office at 508 584-3004. Join us for a day of sun, fun and competition! Once again, all proceeds from the tournament will benefit Spellman's athletic programs!

Volunteers are needed to help with the Golf Tournament. Please contact Susan Ashton at 508-504-3004 or email her at sashton@spellman.pvt.k12.ma.us.

Join us for a day of sun, fun and competition! Once again, all proceeds from the tournament will benefit Spellman's athletic programs!

Volunteers

We wish to thank all of our volunteers who continuously give of their time and efforts to work on Spellman's many programs. Please know that without our wonderful parent volunteers, many of our programs and successes would not be possible. Thank you for all you do for Spellman, and know that we are deeply grateful! Have a fantastic summer!

**Advancement Summer hours:
Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Drama

The Annual spring musical entitled “**Fifty Years of Tradition**” will be held on Friday, June 5th at 7:30pm and Sunday June 7th at 2:00pm. Tickets for the jubilee show will be sold in advance for \$7.00 and \$10.00 on the day of the performance.

Sports

Congratulations to all our athletes for their hard work, and thanks to our fans for their steady support. We had a great spring season and are looking forward to the fall season! Have a safe and healthy summer.

Boys Track

The boys track team won the Catholic Central League Championship. They finished the year undefeated with the **record 6 – 0**. This was their first track league title in 15 years!

Girls Track

The girls track team won the Catholic Central League Championship. They also finished the season undefeated with one tie, **record 5 - 0 -1**. This was the first track league title for the girls in 17 years!

Softball

The Spellman softball team won the Catholic Central League Championship. This is the third straight title and 7th title in the last eight years. Their season **record: 17 - 3**.

Tennis

Best of luck to the Spellman tennis team! They need to defeat Abington twice to get into the State Tournament for the 3rd straight season. (**record 8 – 9**)

Baseball -

Congratulations to the baseball team. They finished this season with the following record: **7 wins - 14 losses**

Mike Gerrish
Athletic Director

Parent Connection

We would like to thank everyone who attended the parent connection meetings this school year and look forward to next year. Thank you to all of the parents who donated their time so generously helping out at school events. A big thank you to Harriet Young for serving as Co-Chair - Harriet's son Douglas is graduating and she will not be with us next year. We would like to welcome Elizabeth Foster-Nolan who has graciously agreed to serve as Co-Chair of the Parent Connection with Laureen Ballard. Once again - Thanks for everything that you have done Harriet - you will be missed.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE – MAY 2009

For many, the academic year is coming to a close. Hopefully, it has been a good year for your son or daughter and that he/she will prepare well for finals!

For admissions, there really is no ending. The calls and e-mails keep coming. We have some wonderful young men & women applying and hoping to be part of the Spellman community.

We are beginning our Big Brother/Big Sister Program. Current juniors and seniors are invited to consider being a BB/BS. Once again, we have more volunteers than freshmen. This speaks so well for our students' welcoming spirit for the Class of 2013. Students had the opportunity to request to be a BB/BS if they knew an incoming freshman. If not, the list of incoming freshmen was posted at 7:15 a.m. on Tuesday, May 26th. By 7:50 a.m. every freshman had a BB/BS. Students signed up quickly and with great enthusiasm. The only difficulty is the disappointment for those students who went to sign and guess what? Every student already had a BB/BS! Now, their phone calls of welcome begin and plans for summer gatherings will emerge. Hopefully, all will go well.

CLUB NEWS

The Peace Club ended its year with the resounding success of the Peace Prayer Concert after school Friday May 1. Three Spellman, or connected to Spellman, bands played to the great enjoyment of all. Club members baked cookies, there was popcorn and soda which added to the fun and defrayed the costs. Special thanks to the faculty members who came, Sister Norah and Mrs. Gangell.

The Recycling Club has been working hard all year keeping the drinking cans and bottles out of landfills. We have a very efficient group who usually have the five barrels emptied, cans and bottles sorted and redeemable items and rinsed by 2:40. This spring we changed our meeting days to Wednesday so members of the track team could get to

Recycling. We are always looking for new members and new ideas. Keep recycling over the summer. Thanks.