



NewsNotes

St. Mary's Elementary School 2/8/2017

Happy Wednesday!

Thank you to all who attended our open house and tuition policy review last night. It was nice to see so many families present.

Last week progress reports were uploaded to the parent portal. If you have not logged on yet to view the reports, please do so that you can see how your child is progressing so far this semester.

We have two events coming up later this week. On Friday, our NJHS will be sponsoring a middle school dance. All proceeds will be donated to a local charity. Middle school students will be able to get their tickets during Friday's lunch. Then, on Saturday, we will be having our mother/son bingo night. This will be a fun night for moms and sons!

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



Upcoming Events

- 2/8 - Spring Pictures, **Dress Up Day**
- 2/9 - Pre-k & 8th Grade Graduation Picture Day, **Regular Uniform Day**
- 2/9 - Book Swap Part I
- 2/10 - Christian Witness Mass
- 2/10 - Book Swap Part II
- 2/10 - NJHS Middle School Dance @ SME
- 2/11 - Mother & Son BINGO
- 2/20 - 2/24 - NO SCHOOL Mid-Winter Break
- 3/1 - School Mass: Ash Wednesday
- 3/4 - Science Olympiad Competition

Re-Registration 17-18

Re-registration packets for the 17-18 school year have been distributed to all oldest and/or only students on Monday, February 06, 2017. Please be sure to read, fill out all required documents, and return to school in the envelope provided as soon as possible. **Returning K-8 families will receive an Early Registration Discount of \$50 off their Commitment Fee if re-registered by March 15, 2017.** If any family has a Pre-K student not currently registered and is interested in joining our Pre-K program next year, please contact the office and we will forward a Pre-K packet to your attention. Thank you.

Service Hour Submission

The submission deadline for all Service Hours worked for the 16-17 school year is almost upon us. All parents who have agreed to work at least 35 hours per the Tuition Contract need to submit a listing of their Service Hours to Sherri Weinholtz at sherriw1175@yahoo.com or send their completed Service Hours Form to the school Tuition Office by the March 15, 2017 deadline. Please make a copy of this form for your reference before submission. Hours may be accrued between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. Failure to complete your pledged hours needed to reach 35 minimum by June 30, 2017 will result in an assessment for unfulfilled hours per your signed Tuition Contract. Projected hours may be added to your Service Hours Form and will be verified against the sign-in sheets provided at each event worked. Please be sure to list the date, event name, time in and out, and total number of hours worked for each event on your Service Hours Form. Always remember to sign in and out with the chairperson at each event. Service Hours opportunities are published in our weekly News Notes and through contact via Chairpersons of the various events. Service Hours forms have been provided to each family opting for Service Hours per the Tuition Contract upon registration. Additional Service Hours Forms are available in the office for your convenience. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Jezuit, Director of Student Affairs at jezuitn@smeschool.com or 683-2112 x121. Thank you.

BISON Fund

Giving Parents a Choice. Giving Children a Chance.

Happy New Year!!! As we welcome 2017 we are ready to accept Pre-Applications for funding for the 2017-2018 school year. Families should apply on-line through our web-site at <http://bisonfund.com/our-scholarships>. The Pre-Application will only be available electronically again this year. The Pre-Application is only for families **new** to BISON. Our deadline is February 28, 2017. Please refer to the poster located near the SME office door.

Current families will be e-mailed a link to complete the requalification PROCESS STARTING ON February 13, 2017. The families will log into the scholarship database and upload their financial information. As a reminder, the deadline for that paperwork is March 31, 2017.

Regards, Cindy McDonald, BISON Fund

Spring Chocolate

Spring Chocolate Orders &
Payment are due this
Friday, February 10th!



SCRIP

Are you buying chocolate for Valentine's Day? Consider purchasing a Fowler's Chocolate gift card through the SCRIP program before making your selections. The Fowler's gift card carries a whopping 40% profit and is an easy way to earn some SCRIP tuition credit. Also available are gift certificates to the Dark Forest Chocolate Makers with a 10% profit. Thank you for your continued support of the SCRIP program.



Congratulations to SME's
Distinguished Graduate
Award recipient
Mr. Dan Rinow!

SME Drama Club

UPDATE: Play Patron Orders are
due **February 27th**.

Please send your request to the
attention of Kristen Helwig.

Email submissions can also be sent
to rapidog@aol.com. Additional
forms are available in the school
office.

Yearbook

If you like to take photos and would be
interested in shadowing our Yearbook
coordinator for the remaining of this
year; please email Mrs. Kierejewski at
kierjewskis@smeschool.com to help/
learn how to put the
yearbook together.
Thank you!



Mother & Son Bingo

Reminder: Mother Son BINGO is this
Saturday from 6-8pm. We are still in
need of 3 or 4 Fathers to help with set
-up and clean-up. If you are able to
help, please email Mrs. Kierejewski at
kierjewskis@smeschool.com



Mega Raffle

Ticket sales are going very well! To date, **395** tickets have been sold for the Mega Raffle. There are only **255** tickets remaining - did you get yours? Last year, we sold out 1 month before the event, so be sure to get your tickets soon! Orders will be picked up each Monday and will be sent home or mailed out by the corresponding Friday.

Thank you to the **47** families who have sold or purchased tickets as part of the fundraising option of the tuition agreement. **All tickets must be paid in full by 4/15/16.** After that date, any remaining tickets will be available to the community, and you will be responsible for the \$200 payment, without receiving a ticket.

As a reminder, the Mega Raffle fund raiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. Thank you to all families that have not only sold or purchased the required tickets; but also to those who have assisted in selling additional tickets. We have seen people getting creative with Social Media (posting this great opportunity to Facebook feeds, etc) as well as working to get multiple people to chip in on one ticket! Every ticket sold gets us closer to our goal and makes sure we have a successful drive! Thank you again for all of your continued support on this important fundraiser.

The first 50 families to sell 5 tickets will earn \$50.00 in SCRIP credit. **2 families have sold 5 or more tickets so far!**

The prize winners will be announced at the live drawing on Friday, June 2nd at 7:00 in the Parish Center.

Flyers are available in the front office if you would like to bring them to your place of business to sell - people love a raffle!

If you are interested in joining our committee, or earning service hours (we are in need of volunteers the night of the event), please contact Mary Kate DeMarizo at megaraffle@smeschool.com or 510-1409.

February Freeze Tournament

Mark your calendars to cheer on the SME teams at the tournament! Our Varsity girls first game will be Fri., 2/17 at 5:00 in the gym. Varsity 8 boys and Varsity 7 boys will play their first game of the tournament on Friday, 2/17 at 6:15 in the gym. Our JV boys 6 team will play on Saturday at 2:15 in the Parish Center, and our JV girls 6 will play on Friday, 2/17 at 5:00 in the Parish Center. Hopefully all of our teams will make it to the Championship games on Sunday at 10:00 (JV girls), 11:15 (JV boys), 12:30 (Varsity boys), & 1:45 (Varsity girls). Admission is \$1 for adults, children are free. At half-time of every game, we will have half-court shot, 3-point shot, and foul shooting contests with prizes. A huge variety of refreshments will be available in the cafeteria. Basket raffles and 50/50 raffles will be held as well. Hope you can join us for what's sure to be an awesome event!

Thank you to the many families who ordered February Freeze t-shirts! Our fans are going to look great and our school spirit will really show! You may pick up your t-shirts any time during the tournament at the admissions table. If you didn't get a chance to order, a limited quantity will be available for \$12 each at the admissions table.

Thank you to the many people who signed up to help volunteer and donate baskets for the raffle! If you or your place of business would like to donate a basket for our raffle, please deliver it to the Athletic Office prior to the tournament. If you haven't signed up to volunteer, we could still use more help collecting at the admissions table and selling concessions. Please visit the website to sign up: TimeToSignUp: SME February Freeze 2017

Athletics

The Spirit game on Saturday was so much fun! The 7th and 8th graders played in a competitive match and it was just awesome to watch! The gym was packed with many school families as well as many former students and their parents! Congrats to the 1/2 court shot winners:

Marco Fidoli- grade 7 & Peter Duane- St. Mary's High school student
Anna Fulciniti- grade 4 (foul shot winner)

Thanks to Ann Murphy and Cory Brown for ALWAYS stepping up and for making this spirit game one that will not be forgotten! A special thank you to Jeff Brown for being an amazing referee! Thank you to the coaches for their time and all of the parents for their support and the supplies that were brought! Thank you to Kristen, (maintenance) for being so helpful, supportive and kind!

IMPORTANT DEADLINE:

Spring sports sign up due TOMORROW, Thursday, Feb. 9th.
Your child needs to get a sign up form from the nurse during their lunch period.

Soccer - Is for grades **1st through 8th grade.**

Boys volleyball - 5th-8th

Girls softball - 5th-8th

Please read the information about the February Freeze basketball tournament!

Don't forget to check out the pictures in the news notes from Spirit games! Thanks Christine Meyo for taking them!

Save the date: Winter sports banquet for all basketball teams: Thursday, March 23, 2017



Catholic Schools Week Fun!



The students of SME had a TERRIFIC Catholic Schools Week!

Look at all the fun they had...

Movie & PJ Day

Twinning & Crazy Hat Day

Zoomobile

Lancaster Lanes Bowling Fun

Spelling Bee 1st-8th grade

BINGO – all grades

Relay Races Pre-K – 3rd grade

Pep Rally – 3rd-8th grade

Sports Attire Day

Buffalo Bandits gym time for all

Professional Day

Class Color Day

A Big THANK YOU goes out to our teachers and staff for coordinating such an awesome week for the students! A shout out to our HSA team for the delicious Ice Cream Social & Athletic department for coordinating the Spirit Games! Fun was certainly had by All!!



St. Mary's Elementary
2 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086

"...visible examples
of gospel living."

Phone: 716-683-2112
Fax: 716-683-2134
www.smeschool.com

The Book Swap

This February 9th and 10th, during lunch periods, Mrs. Wojcik and Mrs. Gasiecki will host another book swap! Students can bring gently used books from home they are finished with to "swap" for new books. We hope to encourage reading at home, without costing families any money!

How it works:

- This will be a two day process. Day 1: students bring in their books and get a ticket for each book they turn in. Day 2: students exchange each ticket for one book.



Books must be grade level appropriate!

K-1: books with pictures

2-5: at least one book must be a grade appropriate chapter book

- Grades 2+ will have to show responsibility by keeping track of their tickets. We will track grades K and 1.
- Students may "swap" up to 3 books. Books need to be "like new" condition, but not brand new. Books with torn or missing pages will not be accepted.
- We kindly ask parents not to come to help your children pick out books, as we want them to make their own choices (we will monitor this, of course ☺).

Our next swap will start on **Thursday, February 9th.**

We hope you will encourage your students to participate!

Unfortunately, due to previous lack of participation, middle school will not be included in this swap.

If you have any questions, please email us at: wojcikk@smeschool.com or gasieckih@smeschool.com

Mrs. Wojcik & Mrs. Gasiecki



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A new updated BISON Children's Scholarship Fund poster was mailed to all the schools last week. I encourage you to display this information on your school bulletin board. The highest scholarship amount for 2017-2018 will be **\$1,900** per child. Thank you for sharing this important information with your families. All the best in the New Year!!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 716-854-0869 ext. 1 or cmcdonald@bisonfund.com.

Regards,

Cindy