



NewsNotes

St. Mary's Elementary School 1/18/2017

Happy Wednesday!

We have some exciting events coming up this week. On Friday, 1/20, Ready, Set, Read and Battle of the Books will be taking place. This is a fun event and I hope that many of our families will join us. I am also very excited about the Future City Competition taking place on Saturday, 1/21 at Mount St. Mary's High School. Our students have been working very hard on their project. Please come out and support our team!



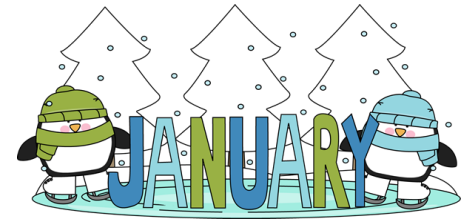
Tonight is our HSA meeting at 6:00. Please try to attend. We need to have our families as involved as possible as there are still events this year that we could use volunteers for. HSA meetings are a way to stay aware of goings on at school. Remember, "Many hands make light work." (John Heywood) There will be sign in sheets placed on the stage at the end of the meeting. The class with the highest parent representation at the meeting will receive a free snack at lunch! Babysitting will be available by members of our National Junior Honor Society.

Included in today's blue folder is a sign-up slip for our Career Day on Feb. 3rd. This will be an opportunity for our 4th - 8th graders to see a glimpse of the various careers available in the area.

Our 4th - 8th graders will be going bowling to celebrate Catholic Schools Week on Wednesday, 2/1! Permission slips are coming home today to those grades.

Additionally, we will be hosting a Family Paint Night on Tuesday, Feb 7th from 5:30 - 6:30. Please refer to the flyer in today's folder.

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



Upcoming Events

- 1/18 - HSA Meeting 6:00
- 1/19 - K-5 Book Swap part 1
- 1/20 - K-5 Book Swap part 2
- 1/20 - Ready SET Read / Battle of the Books 6:00pm
- 1/23 - 7th Gr. Field Trip
- 1/30 - 7th Gr. Field Trip
- 1/30 - 2/3 - Catholic Schools Week
- 2/7 - 6th Gr. Field Trip

Chocolate Sale Parties



The Prize parties for our Chocolate Sale will be held Friday January 20th & 27th!

Teachers will receive a list of attendees and all parties will be held during the lunch periods.

We are in need of parent support on these days from 10:30 - 1:00. If you are able to come in and help, please email Mrs. Janik at janikj@smeschool.com. Thank you in advance!

Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books & Ready SET Read Night is this Friday! The pizza and subs party will begin at 6pm. The Battle of the Books competition and Ready SET read activities will be from 6:30-8:00. Tomorrow is your last chance to register. Please complete the attached registration form and send in payment tomorrow. For those families already signed up, please remember to bring the following:

PreK, kindergarten & grades 6 & 7: a side dish such as: salad, veggies & dip, chips, or fruit

Grades 3-5: dessert

Grades 1, 2 & 8- two 2-liters of pop or equivalent of water or other beverage

If you have children in multiple grades, choose one item from any of those grades.

On Friday, Battle of the Books participants and their families may go straight to the gym for the pizza party. Ready SET Read participants and their families should sign in first at the table in the school entrance and then head to the gym. Pizza and food will be served in the gym, but seating will also be available in the Parish Center and cafeteria. At 6:30, the 4th & 5th grade Battle of the Books competition will begin in the cafeteria and the Middle School Battle of the Books competition will begin in the gym. Battle of the Books participants are encouraged to bring team signs and apparel. SET is so excited to see you at the event!

Students, you have one more day to hand in tickets for the Reading Challenge. All signed tickets are due Thursday, Jan. 19.

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



Athletics



Congratulations to our basketball teams that did very well in tournaments this past weekend!

The 6th gr. boys won the St. Mary's Swormsville tournament! The 6th gr. girls won the St. Peter & Paul tournament in O.P.! Our 7th/8th gr. girls placed 2nd in the St. Peter & Paul tournament!

Congratulations to our...

* 8th grade boys on their win against St. John's of Alden, 43-17!

* 4th grade boys beat Notre Dame 24-19!

* 4th grade girls played a very close game against Christ the King! They played very well and fought hard throughout the entire game!

On Saturday, January 21st, the following Fr. Schaus league games will be played at SME;

12:30 SME JV 5 1:30 SME 3-4-3 2:30 SME 3-4-4

If anyone is available to work the concessions at any of these games, please email athletics@smeschool.com.



6th Grade Girls



6th Grade Boys



7th/8th Grade Girls



Margaret & Christine were selected for the All-Tournament team!

SME Alumni Needed



St. Mary's Elementary School – Alumni Needed!

Are you a Graduate of St. Mary's Elementary School or do you know one? Did you know that each year we honor one of our former graduates at the conclusion of Catholic Schools Week in February? Please let us know about the accomplishments of an outstanding SME alum by nominating him/her for the 2017 St. Mary's Distinguished Graduate Award. Contact the school office at 683-2112 for a nomination form by January 20th, 2017. Or please visit our school website at www.smeschool.com for the application. Thank you!

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



Read to Ride

This year SME is going to participate in Darien Lake Theme Park's Read to Ride Program! This program is designed for students in grades K-5. When the students read for 7 hours, outside of the classroom, Darien Lake will treat them to a fun day at the park! The dates for this program are 1/13/17-2/28/17.

Your child should have brought home the letter and the Student Tracking Chart. I look forward to seeing all of our students in K-5 participate not only for a free ticket to Darien Lake, but for the fun of reading! Please check the SME website for more information! ~ Mrs. Trulin

"...visible examples of gospel living."

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

ST. MARY'S

FAMILY PAINT NIGHT FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS OF SME!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

5:30-6:30 pm

Location: School Gym

Open to families with students in 3rd-8th Grade

Cost is \$20 per person

SPACE IS LIMITED!
RESERVE NO LATER THAN
JANUARY 23RD!

PLEASE WEAR AN OLD T-SHIRT
OR APRON.

Please detach and return
with payment to the School
office in a labeled envelope

Make Checks payable to SME

Name: _____

Phone# : _____

Number Attending: _____

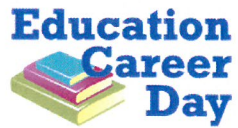
Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Reserve no
later than
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CAREER DAY



Attention SME Parents: On Friday, Feb. 3rd between 9:30am and 11:15am we will be hosting a CAREER day here at SME as part of our Catholic Schools Week. We are looking for a few parents to come in and give a quick snapshot of your career to grades 4-8th. If you are interested, please fill out the form below and return to the school office by **Tuesday, Jan. 24th**. Thank you



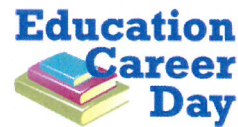
Name: _____ Job Title: _____ Phone # _____
Please return by Tues. 1/24/17 to school office attn: CSW committee

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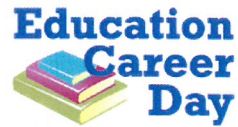
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The Book Swap

Once a month, during lunch periods, Mrs. Wojcik and Mrs. Gasiiecki will host a 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

6-8: due to a lack of participation, we cannot have these grades participate anymore ☹️

- Notifications of the dates each month and reminders will be posted in the newsletter.
- 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 first swap will start on Thursday, January 19th.

We hope you will encourage your students to participate!

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

Mrs. Wojcik & Mrs. Gasiiecki

A small, stylized handwritten signature or set of initials in the bottom right corner of the page.



St. Mary's Elementary School
2 St. Mary's Hill Lancaster, NY 14086
716-683-2112

Parent / Legal Guardian Permission Slip for Field Trip Participation

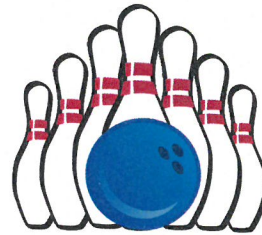
Dear Parent or Legal Guardian:

Your son / daughter, is eligible to participate in a school-sponsored activity that requires transportation to a location away from the school site. This activity will take place under the guidance and supervision of employees from St. Mary's Elementary School. A brief description of the activity follows:

Students in grades 4-8 will be participating in bowling as one of our events during Catholic Schools Week.

Destination: **Lancaster AMF Bowling Alley**
Designated supervisor of activity: **4-8th grade teachers**

Date and time of departure: **2/1/17 9:00am**
Date and anticipated time of return: **2/1/17 11:30am**
Method of transportation**: **Lancaster Busing**



Student cost: \$10.00 Please return in envelope marked with student/family name no later than January 25th. The cost includes bowling and busing. The students should wear sneakers that have white rubber soles. There will be shoes to use, but there are limited quantities. Students sneakers must be dry.

If you would like your child to participate in this event, please complete, sign, and return the following statement of consent and release of liability. As parent, or legal guardian, you remain fully responsible for any legal responsibility which may result from any personal actions taken by the named student.

I hereby consent to participation by my child, _____, in the event described above. I understand that this event will take place away from the school grounds and that my child will be under the supervision of the designated school employee on the stated dates. I further consent to the conditions stated above on participation in this event, including the method of transportation.

Students not attending this event will remain at school.



Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Address

Emergency Phone Number

Please return this form by – Wednesday, January 25, 2017 to the school office. Thank you.

January 18, 2017

Dear friends of St. Mary's Elementary School,

The rehearsals for our spring musical, Annie Jr., are well underway. The children are working hard and are very excited. Your past support and support from our community has been an integral part of the success of our Drama Club. So, once again, we are hoping you will purchase a patron to help the St. Mary's Drama Club. Families and businesses are encouraged to submit either a personal ad for their child or a business ad to promote their business while still supporting the Drama Club. Our students are also invited to support their friends with a \$2.00 student patron, wishing them luck.

We hope you will consider attending one of our three productions:

Friday, March 17, 2017 Performance at 7:00pm

Saturday, March 18, 2017 Performances at 1:30pm and 6:00pm

As always, St. Mary's Elementary School is deeply grateful for your overwhelming support of our events. May God bless and give you his peace.

Gratefully,

St. Mary's Drama Club

Please cut here and return below portion with your payment to St. Mary's Elementary School by Monday, February 27, 2017 to the attention of Kristen Helwig

Payable with cash or check to "St. Mary's Elementary School"



Full Page Ad \$30 _____

Half Page Ad \$20 _____

Quarter Page Ad \$10 _____

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

Student Patrons \$2 _____

Please attach a business card, printed sheet, or email a file to Kristen Helwig at rapi-dog@aol.com

S.M.E.'s School Effectiveness Team presents...

Battle of the Books & Ready SET Read Night

Friday, Jan 20, 2017, 6:00-8:00 pm

Battle of the Books is for students in grades 4-8. There are two divisions. The 4th and 5th grade division will be held in the cafeteria. The 6th, 7th & 8th grade division will be held in the gym. New this year: Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams in each division! All students should sign up their teams with Mrs. Janik beginning tomorrow in the library. Please complete the form below and send in registration fees.

Ready SET Read Night is for students in pre-K through grade 3 and their families. It will be held in the Parish Center and the children will be rotating through several classrooms as well. Please register for this event on this form and send in registration fees. More information on this event is in the blue folder and attached to the "News to Know" on the school website.

Registration form for Battle of the Books & Ready SET Read

**Used
Books
Wanted**

S.E.T is collecting gently used books for the book sale at this event. A used book donation box can be found in the office.



To help us prepare for the event, let us know if you can join us. Complete and return this portion of the page along with the payment of \$5 per child. This includes crafts and prizes. Please include an additional \$10 per family to cover the cost of pizza and subs for the entire family. Return this form and money in an envelope labeled: "SET" by Dec 22.

We are asking each family to bring the following items to the event:
 PreK, kindergarten & grades 6 & 7: a side dish such as: salad, veggies & dip, chips, or fruit
 Grades 3-5: dessert
 Grades 1, 2 & 8- two 2-liters of pop or equivalent of water or other beverage
 If you have children in multiple grades, choose one item from any of those grades.

Yes! We will be attending Battle of the Books/ Ready SET Read Night!

Family Name: _____

Please list names and grades of students who are participating.

Student's Name:	grade:	\$5 per child
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Include \$10 per family for pizza and subs for everyone. \$10. _____

Total \$ enclosed: _____

Total # of family members who will be eating pizza & subs: _____

Family email _____

Food item that you are bringing to the event: _____

Questions: Please email the SET committee at: smeset@smeschool.com



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Current families will be e-mailed a link to complete the requalification process starting on February 13, 2017. The families will login the scholarship database and upload their financial information. As a reminder the deadline for that paperwork is March 31, 2017.

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