



# NewsNotes

St. Mary's Elementary School

1/25/2017

Happy Wednesday!

I know that many are aware that SME did not participate in the Future City Competition this past Saturday. First, let me start by saying that this was extremely upsetting to all of us to have to back out of the competition. The rules of the competition state that we have to have "a full complement of team members", which is 3 students in order to present. Additionally, as per the rules "team members must display an equal amount of knowledge." If we do not have this, we CANNOT compete. Ms. Poepsel checked with the presenting students during the week and they stated they would present. On Friday, 2 students decided that they would not present. I went upstairs and spoke with the students and explained that they worked so hard we should be competing. The 2 students still refused. I asked if other students would like to present and there were no volunteers. Now, it is the day before competition and we are short presenters. I am proud of all of the students and their hard work on the project but due to the rules, we could not participate. Again, this was upsetting for all and I wish it did not have to happen. Unfortunately, we were left with no other choice than to withdraw.

On Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:15 pm, we will be holding a town hall meeting to discuss the tuition policy for the next school year. There are several changes to the policy and I encourage all to try and attend the meeting.

Also, please make a note of this change to our calendar. The teachers will be participating in STREAM Professional Development on March 13<sup>th</sup>. This means that school will not be in session. We will continue to send home reminders regarding this change.

God's Peace and Love,  
Mrs. Kwitowski



## Upcoming Events

- 1/30 - 7th Gr. Field Trip
- 1/30 - 2/3 - Catholic Schools Week
- 1/30 - Pajama Day
- 1/31 - "Twinning" &/or Crazy Hat Day
- 2/1 - Class Color Day
- 2/2 - Sports Day
- 2/3 - Professional Day
- 2/4 - Spirit Games, 4:30 CSW Mass, Ice Cream Social
- 2/7 - 6th Gr. Field Trip



As winter begins to show it's snowy side again, remember that we are within the Lancaster School District and so if Lancaster is closed, so are we! We will get any closing information out to you as soon as possible if a snowy situation arises. We thank you in advance for your understanding in our effort to keep our students (and parents) safe in uncertain weather. Closings will be announced via our emergency contact system, as well as on the local news stations. As always, if you have any concerns or questions please feel free to call the school office.

## Catholic Schools Week

We have some exciting plans for Catholic Schools Week this year! Fun and games to last throughout the week!

Please refer to the letter going home today with regards to our attire for the week.



Reminder: Bowling **PERMISSION SLIP** and **FEE** for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade is due in **NO LATER** than Thursday, Jan. 26. If your form and fee is not turned in your child(ren) will not be able to attend the Bowling day. Thank you!

Paint Night Registrations are due now!

Don't delay and reserve your spot today!



## Chocolate Sale Parties

Our final chocolate party will be held on Friday.

All prizes will be distributed by the end of the month.

Thank you again for your amazing support of this fundraiser!



# 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

Upcoming IMPORTANT dates:

Saturday, Feb. 4th @ 3:00 is the Spirit Game which is held at SME in the gym. Traditionally, the 7th grade and 8th grade students play in a co-ed basketball game against one another. Admission is \$1.00, concessions will be sold, and a half court shot contest will take place! All are invited to attend!

Following the game, Mass is at 4:30 and afterwards an Ice Cream social will take place in the parish center!

Thursday, March 23rd @ 6:00 will be the Winter sports banquet. This banquet is for all basketball players and takes place in the parish center. More information will be coming as it gets closer.

Thursday, Feb. 9th is the last date to register for a spring sport. Your child may stop in the nurse's office during their lunch period to get a sign up form. Mrs. Moreno will verify that a current physical is on file or if one will need to be obtained in order for your child to play.

Sign ups are for the following sports:

Co-Ed soccer - grades 3rd-8th

Boys Volleyball- grades 5th- 8th

Girls Softball- grades 5th- 8th

## SME Drama Club



Play Patron Orders are due Friday!

Please send your request to the attention of Kristen Helwig.

Email submissions can also be sent to [rapidog@aol.com](mailto:rapidog@aol.com).

Additional forms are available in the school office or by viewing last week's NewsNote.

## Chaperones Needed

Our NJHS will be hosting a dance on February 10th and we are in need of parent chaperones.

If you are interested and able to help please contact Mrs. Wojnar at [wojnarn@smeschool.com](mailto:wojnarn@smeschool.com).

Thank you in advance for your support!

## Mother & Son BINGO NIGHT

Dad's of SME, it is your turn now. We will need some help for Mother & Son Bingo Night on Saturday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm. We will need help with the set-up, during the event and then clean up. If you are able to help, please fill out the form below and send it in to Mrs. Kierejewski by Wed., February 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you! More information will be coming home soon about this night.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

I can help with: \_\_\_\_\_ Set-up \_\_\_\_\_ Event \_\_\_\_\_ Clean-up

(send in to Mrs. Kierejewski by 2/1/17 – Mother & Son Bingo)



# Ready SET Read

## Ready, SET, Read – Reading Challenge Winners

Everyone did a fantastic job reading this year. SME students read over 300 hours for the challenge!

Congratulations to the following classrooms:

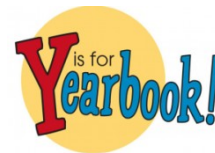
First Place - Mrs. Darling

Second Place - Mrs. Michalek

Third Place - Mrs. Marrano

We are looking for a Yearbook Coordinator for next school year.

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 [kierejewski@smeschool.com](mailto:kierejewski@smeschool.com) to help/learn how to put the yearbook together. Our current coordinator will be leaving after this school year. Thank you!



## What are they up to?



Guest speaker Tim Day came into Mr. Haskill's 6th and 7th grade health classes this past Friday. He shared his personal story about organ donation. Tim is the gracious recipient of a heart transplant. He came in to talk as part of the STREAM Program with UNYTS. Ask your child to share the touching story with you.



Our seventh grade classes went to the Buffalo Science Museum on Monday, and had a great time exploring the museum before they were able to participate in a dissection lab! The kids were excited to be able to dissect a frog! Be sure to check out Facebook for more great photos of this fun trip!



## 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](http://www.smeschool.com) for the application. Thank you!

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

"...visible examples  
of gospel living."



## 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

Phone: 716-683-2112

Fax: 716-683-2134

[www.smeschool.com](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_

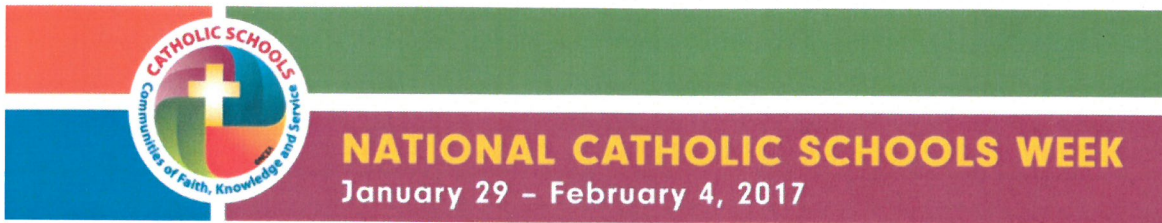
Phone# : \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve no  
later than  
January 23rd!





**Dress UP Fun Days!!** Students/Staff please follow the schedule for Catholic Schools Week dress up days. Each day you may wear jeans (with NO HOLES) and whatever theme is assigned for that day. On Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> the students/staff all must DRESS UP in PROFESSIONAL attire, NO JEANS allowed. Thank you!

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday, January 30 <sup>th</sup>    | - Pajama Day (no tank tops or slippers)  |
| Tuesday, January 31 <sup>st</sup>   | - "Twinning Day" and/or Crazy Hat Day (twin with a friend)   |
| Wednesday, February 1 <sup>st</sup> | - Class Color Day (head to toe)<br>Pre-K - Neon<br>Kinder - SME gym t-shirts<br>1 <sup>st</sup> - Orange<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> - Yellow<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> - Green<br>4 <sup>th</sup> - Light Blue<br>5 <sup>th</sup> - Purple<br>6 <sup>th</sup> - Black<br>7 <sup>th</sup> - White<br>8 <sup>th</sup> - Red |
| Thursday, February 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | - Sports Day (Any sports team attire or if you have Bandits gear please consider wearing it because they will be here during the day) "GO team Bandits"  |
| Friday, February 3 <sup>rd</sup>    | - Dress up like a Professional (No jeans allowed) this day is also Distinguished Graduate Award Day  |
| Saturday, February 4 <sup>th</sup>  | - Spirit Games at 3pm in the school gym and a Ice Cream Social after the 4:30 Mass (Hope to see you all there!)  |

Hope you all have a terrific time during Catholic Schools Week 2017



## Scrapbook Club

**Advisors: Mrs. Gasiiecki & Mrs. Wojcik**

Grades: 3-8

Session 2: February-May

Every other Thursday **2:15-3:15**

Open to all students who want to explore their creativity. Bring your photos and make fun scrapbook pages! Basic scrapbook materials are made available for your use, or bring your own to share.

Do you like to take pictures and want to show them off in a creative way? Then Scrapbook Club may be the perfect club for you! Scrapbooking is a hobby that has continued to grow in popularity. Scrapbook Club offers students an opportunity to express themselves by incorporating pictures, memorabilia, decorative paper, stickers, and die cuts into creative scrapbook pages. Students will have the opportunity to use a variety of tools and materials and will learn and practice techniques that help them showcase their pictures. No previous experience is required...all that's needed is a desire to express your individuality and a few photographs for each page you wish to create. Decorative paper, cardstock, page protectors, stickers, adhesives, markers, and an assortment of scissors (regular and decorative) will be provided. Scrapbooks are not furnished for students, but page protectors will be provided that will fit into any standard 12" by 12" post-style album (or a three ring binder for those who do not own a scrapbook).

**A \$10.00 cash supply fee per student/ per session** is required to cover consumable items such as paper, stickers, page protectors, and glue. Members are free to purchase additional supplies for their personal use or to share.

The club meets approximately twice a month on Thursdays in Room 200 from 2:15 to 3:15. A calendar will be provided at the first meeting. In case a meeting has to be canceled, students will be notified as soon as possible. If students are not picked up by 3:30, we will send them to FAST Club.

**\*To Sign-up for session 2 please email one of the advisors below by 1/27. We can only accommodate 20 students per session. First come, first serve.**

**The supply fee is due to an advisor by 1/30.**

### Session 2

**2/2**

**2/16**

**3/2**

**3/16**

**3/30**

**4/27**

**5/11**

**5/25**

### ADVISORS:

**Mrs. Gasiiecki-**

[gasiieckih@smeschool.com](mailto:gasiieckih@smeschool.com)

**Mrs. Wojcik-**

[wojcikk@smeschool.com](mailto:wojcikk@smeschool.com)



January 26, 2017

Dear SME Family,

We would like to thank you for all that you do to make St. Mary's great! Without your support, the events and fundraisers that we hold would not be as successful as they are.

At this time, we are looking for donations for baskets to raise additional funds for this year's Mega Raffle on June 2, 2017.

Attached, is a list of items that we are collecting, separated by grade. If you are able to donate an item from your grade (you do not need to donate for more than more grade if you have multiple children enrolled), please reach out to me at [megaraffle@smeschool.com](mailto:megaraffle@smeschool.com) with what item you will be sending in. We would like to avoid duplicates. If you prefer, you may make a monetary donation in lieu of an item.

If you received a Christmas gift that you cannot use, we may be able to! Please label all items donated so that we can return them if we are unable to use them. If you have any new Buffalo sports gear (Bills, Sabres, Bisons, etc), or know someone that can supply tickets for games, we will gladly accept those as well!

All donated items can be turned in to the front office by 2/15/17.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Steve & Mary Kate DeMarzio (Mega Raffle Chair Couple)

Over →

JK



<u>Grade</u>	<u>Items Requested</u>
PreK	Lottery tickets, Gift cards in denominations of \$5-\$10
K	Pet theme: Dog treats, cat treats, dog toys, cat toys, dog bed, cat tree/bed, dog shampoo, leashes, blankets, bowls
1 <sup>st</sup>	Beach theme: towels, sunscreen, goggles, books, sunglasses, folding/lounge chair, sun umbrella, cooler, puzzle books, water bottles
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pasta theme: boxes of pasta, colander, serving bowl, cheese shaker, 2 wine glasses, salad bowl, salad tongs
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Car detailing: bucket, soap, brush, tire/wheel cleaner, windshield cleaner, interior cleaner, towels, Delta Sonic GC
4 <sup>th</sup>	Wedding theme: 2 champagne/wine glasses, bride/groom flip flops, Mr/Mrs pillows, blanket with wedding theme, wedding picture frames/albums, Mr/Mrs towels, Mr/Mrs wall hanging
5 <sup>th</sup>	Home décor - <b>NEW items only</b> : vases, lamps, pillows, frames, wall decor (paintings, shelves, etc), blankets, candles
6 <sup>th</sup>	Movie theme: movie theatre GCs, popcorn, popcorn bowls/bucket, DVDs, boxed/bagged candy, drinks
7 <sup>th</sup>	\$2.00 for cash prize to be displayed in a frame
8 <sup>th</sup>	Lottery tickets, Gift cards in denominations of \$5-\$10





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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](mailto:cmcdonald@bisonfund.com).

Regards,

Cindy



## **SERVICE HOURS SUBMISSION DEADLINE MARCH 15, 2017**

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](mailto: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 a \$900 fee being assessed 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](mailto:jezuitn@smeschool.com) or 683-2112 x121. Thank you.