

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2 OCTOBER 11, 2017



FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK...

Thank you to those who responded to the *Dinner and Dialogue* with the Principal. Unfortunately, due to a lack of responses for the first one this evening, I will have to cancel the dinner. I will look to reschedule it at a future date.

I will keep the other grade levels updated as their night approaches. I am hopeful that we will be able to keep these events. This Saturday night is our My Little Sweetheart

Dance. If you have not gotten your tickets yet, please send in your RSVP.

You may have noticed a new procedure with our private pick up drivers. Going forward *all* visitors will need to be buzzed into the school via door #1. We ask that for security reasons, you do not admit anyone into the building on your way out as well. We appreciate your cooperation and diligence in keeping all of our kids safe.

Your SET team is working hard on the 2017-2018 School Directory. In order to have the most up to date contact information we need all families to log into the parent portal and verify that their contact information is correct. Once all families have completed this, SET will be able to finalize the School Directory. You can access the Parent Portal at the very bottom of our SME website.

While you are there, take a look at all the changes

we've made to make the website more user friendly!

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 10/14 - My Little Sweetheart Dance
- 10/16 - All for Books Dress Down Day \$1
- 10/25 - Book Fair Preview Night, 6-8pm
- 10/26 - Picture Re-Take Day
- 10/26-27 - Book Fair 8am - 2pm
- 10/28 - HSA Family Fun Night
- 10/30 - All for Books Dress Down Day \$1
- 11/3 - 1:00 Dismissal, Christian Witness Mass 8:30am, Autumn Gold 6pm-10pm
- 11/6 - Dress Down Day

SCRIP

From October 1- 7, 2017, the Scrip rebate profit earned for the school was \$941.11.

Monthly Scrip Sales Goal	Monthly Scrip Profit Goal
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
October Profit-to-Date	Year Profit-to-Date
\$293.02	\$1,234.13

When we work together on the \$1,500.00 monthly goal, it is less than a \$200 purchase in gift cards per family, per month, through the SCRIP program. Since SCRIP cards can be purchased for Tops Gasoline, Tops groceries, Amazon, Tim Hortons, paying your Kohl's bill, etc I am sure we can all find easy ways to help with this goal. Each week we will update what we have sold towards the monthly goal of \$30,000 in SCRIP sales.

We have placed a locked box outside the Scrip office so that you can drop off orders whenever it is convenient for you! There will also be one in the back of the church in the near future. Thanks for your support in making the SCRIP program a success to our school, our Parish and for our children!

Please contact the Scrip office at scrip@smeschool.com to find out how you can support this fundamental program.

AUTUMN GOLD

Autumn Gold needs you! Many hands make a lot of money for our school & parish! If you are able to help sell raffle tickets (50/50 split club &/or tickets for our extra AG raffle) during the event please email AutumnGold@smeschool.com.

Have you purchased your ticket yet? Tickets are available through the school office. Please email your request to AutumnGold@smeschool.com with your ticket number choices. Tickets are just \$50

and admit two to this **adult only** event.

Thank you to everyone who has already submitted items or full baskets! Please be sure to label your item(s) with your child's homeroom number.

Congratulations to our Early Bird Winners:
August: 521, 330, 46, 314
September: 295, 226, 52, 210

We thank you in advance for your continuous support of our school and parish!



ESCHOOL MOBIL APP

There is a new ESchoolData Mobile App available for parents/guardians. The ESchoolData Mobile App is available from the Apple App Store and Google Play. Once the app has been downloaded to your device, you may be prompted to permit push notifications. If you do not consent to this access level, you will not receive notifications. Parents/Guardians must use the E-mail address and password associated with their existing SME E-School account. This mobile app uses your current permissions and settings to ensure a consistent user experience across all applications. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Jezuit at jezuitn@smeschool.com. Thank you.

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ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086

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

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

"...VISIBLE EXAMPLES OF GOSPEL
LIVING..."

CAFETERIA

Thank you to everyone who has donated recess items for the cafeteria! Were you tripping over extra/old items this weekend in your garage? It's not too late...Send them in for a second wind with our kids!

Also, I am currently looking for extra volunteer help during the 3rd lunch period (12:14-12:51). The weather has been so amazing for getting the students outside for a bit of fresh air after, but we need help from our parents/grandparents to do so. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to me at lunchmonitor@smeschool.com.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation!

~ Mary Kate DeMarzio
Cafeteria Supervisor

ATHLETICS

Basketball registration is now closed. Coaches will notify their team players after the basketball organizational meeting. This meeting is for all Head coaches and is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 16th at 6:30 at SME. Practices will begin AFTER Nov. 1st.

Fall Sport Team updates:

BASEBALL: (Coached by Steve Kuhn and Scott Corcoran) The Varsity 6th-8th boys baseball team finished their regular season with a 5-2-1 record! They placed 2nd in their Division! Wishing them great success as they enter the play-offs!

CROSS COUNTRY: (Coached by Julie Wolford) The SME cross-country team ran in their first meet on October 2nd. Out of nine schools, our girls' team took third and our boys' team took fifth. All the SME runners showed great effort and sportsmanship. Our top runners this week were Margaret N. who placed third out of 83 runners, and Josh C. who placed 13th out of 85 runners. This solid team of 15 runners is representing SME very well!

SWIM: (Coached by Jen & Nick Fulciniti) The Co-ed swim team is comprised of 28 swimmers from all grade levels. The kids are having fun and are heading to their 3rd meet of the season this Sunday at Kenmore East H.S. at 8:00 a.m.. A special thank you is

extended to ALL of the swim parents for helping out at the meets.

VOLLEYBALL: Varsity 8th Girls (Coach Ted Kuzniarek) - The 8th grade girls volleyball team is still undefeated at 9-0. They also won the Nativity tournament in O.P. St Mary's was led by strong serving and setting from Blair, strong serving and hitting from Lauren, hitting and serving from Christine, serving and passing from Ally, strong passing from Rachel, Choe, Grace and Te'Leah, also strong hitting from Lainie, Ella and Ava. The next tournament is at St. Mary's HS on 10/14.

Varsity 7th Girls - (Coaches Amanda Wentland & Tara Petroski) The Varsity 7th grade Girls team is off to a great start with a 6-0 record led by strong ace serving of Bella, Gabbie & Paige. With additional help from Brooke, Ciara, Magdalene, Olivia, and Ella, the team is a solid force on the court! They are heading to their 1st grammar school tournament hosted at St. Mary's H.S. on 10/14.

JV 5th/6th Girls - (Coach Michelle McCreia) - The JV 5th/6th grade girl team is a large team of 16 girls! They were thankful to have Coach Don from St. Mary's HS school come to a practice and share his time, knowledge & coaching skills with them!

HSA

Our KidStuff Book sale is coming to a close!

Thank you to everyone who has already sold your book(s) and returned payment.

The sale will run until Oct. 16th. If you are unable to sell your books simply return them to the school office by 10/16.

BOOK FAIR

Our fall Scholastic Book Fair will be October 25-27th. All proceeds from this sale will benefit our STREAM Program!

We will have a schedule available prior to the sale so you know when your child's class will be shopping.

If you are interested in working at the book fair with our team leads, please email Darcie Fudoli (dfudoli@yahoo.com).

FAST CLUB

Our FAST Club program is in need of some new toys, books and games. If you have any items you would be willing to donate please send them into the school office Attn: FAST Club.

Ever wonder how you were going to work out child care on our days off? Did you know that our FAST program is expanding to possibly be open those days? If this is something you may be interested in please email secretary@smeschool.com!

MISSION POSSIBLE

Challenge Period 1 begins this week and continues through December 8th.

Each student received a bag to collect and transport food items to school.

Here are our goals for this period:

PREK - 6th grade = 50 cans each grade (which equals 5 full bags for each grade)

7th & 8th grades = 100 cans each grade (which equals 10 full bags for each grade)

Teachers/staff = 50 cans (which equals 5 full bags)

Grand total = 650 cans (65 full bags)

Thank you and God Bless you,
Mrs. Hoag and the Social Justice Class
hoagb@smeschool.com



STAY IN THE KNOW

Save the Date: Pancake Breakfast 10/29

Paint Night: It is not too late to register, paint night will be held Wednesday, October 25th.

Bottle Drive: Our 8th grade bottle return drive will continue throughout the school year. Bins are located in the school foyer and cafeteria. Large donations can be brought to either Cash for

Cans locations or Deposit Depot.

Pop Machines: We are in need of a new parent to oversee the filling and ordering of product for our pop machines. If you would like more information please email Amanda Kuhn.

Catholic Schools Marathon: All pledge money is due by October 27th.



MY LITTLE SWEETHEART DANCE

The My Little Sweetheart Dance is Saturday! We are still in need of assistance with our set up/clean up committee and some helpers during the dance. If you are interested please return the following slip or email Amanda Kuhn at secretary@smeschool.com.

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____
Virtus Trained: Yes / No
_____ Set Up _____ Help during Dance _____ Clean Up

October 11, 2017

Dear Parents,

The Fall Scholastic Book Fair arrives at St. Mary's on Wednesday October 25th thru Friday, October 27th 2017. The fair will be located in the Gym.

The Scholastic flyer highlighting many of the newest books available in children's literature will be coming home next week. You are welcome to visit the Fair with your child's class or at your leisure.

The schedule for your child's time to visit the book fair will come home as the fair gets closer.

Please see the attached flyer regarding the opportunity for the kids to dress down on October 16th and October 30th.

Pre-K parents are invited to visit the book fair with your child at any of the hours that fit your schedule.

We accept credit cards, checks and cash. Please make sure your child has their payment in a secured marked envelope with their name on it. If it is easier for you, stop in and purchase a gift certificate for your child. The Book Fair also offers posters, pens & pencils, erasers, etc... Advise your child if you prefer that they just purchase books.

Thank you so much for all of your support. This year all profits will go to benefit our STREAM program at St. Mary's.

Finally, this is my last year as chairperson of the Book Fair. If you and a friend are interested in teaming up to ensure its future success here at SME, please contact me at 982-1110 or dfudoli@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,

Darcie Fudoli
Book Fair Chair





Dear Families,

Our school is collecting funds for our All for Books program. By donating dollar bills or loose change you help us to:

- purchase books for classroom libraries for all the children to enjoy
- give more children greater access to books and help get more kids reading
- Fund our STREAM program

The All for Books money we collect also helps readers beyond our school and community. Scholastic Book Fairs matches monetary donations with a donation of up to **one million books** to the Kids In Need Foundation and Kids in Distressed Situations, Inc.

We are promoting this as follows:

2 Dress Down Days Monday, October 16th and Monday, October 30th

Please remember no clothing with rips or tears are allowed

Pay \$1 for each dress down day and you will also be entered in a raffle for a chance to win a basket of books.

Purchase extra raffle tickets too!

We will pick one winner from grades PreK, K-3, 4-6, and 7-8.

Please enter your FAMILY NAME & GRADE on each ticket (attached) for every \$1 donated.

On behalf of the students and teachers of our school, THANK YOU!

**Please send in an envelope ON THE DRESS DOWN DAY to the attention of:
Darcie Fudoli/All for Books**



Your donation helps connect more kids with books.

Thank you!



Your donation helps connect more kids with books.

Thank you!



Your donation helps connect more kids with books.

Thank you!



Your donation helps connect more kids with books.

Thank you!



Your donation helps connect more kids with books.

Thank you!



Your donation helps connect more kids with books.

Thank you!



Your donation helps connect more kids with books.

Thank you!

BOOK COME TO OUR FAIR!

Wednesday Oct 25th-Friday 27th

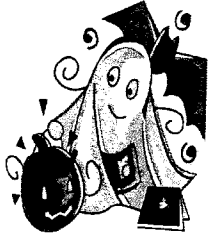
10/25 Preview/Family Shop Night 6-8:00, 10/26 8am-2pm, 10/27 9am-1pm

located in the school gym

All purchases benefit our school!

Credit cards accepted at participating schools.





St. Mary's Elementary School
Home School Association

Saturday, October 28, 2017

6:00 - 9:00pm

in the Parish Center

**PUT ON YOUR DANCING SHOES & DO THE
MONSTER MASH!**

Pizza will be served @ 6:30

This is a Family Event. Children need to be accompanied by an adult.

\$6.00 per person includes:

Pizza, Drinks, Dessert for all, Treats for the Kids & Door Prize!

There will be prizes for the best Costume & Best Dressed Family!

This Event is NOT a Fundraiser –
Just a night for SME families to have a ghoulishly good time together!

Please return this portion (which serves as your door prize entry)
by Wednesday 10/23 Attn: HSA

Yes! We will be attending Family Fun Night!

Family Name: _____

_____ Adults + _____ Children = _____ X \$6 = \$ _____
Cash or Checks payable to St. Mary's Elementary School – HSA

KK

WNY

Children's Book Expo



**NOV
11
2017**



FREE ADMISSION | OPEN TO PUBLIC

- Meet Authors & Illustrators
- Book Signings
- Story Readings
- Interactive Presentations
- Characters from your favorite books!

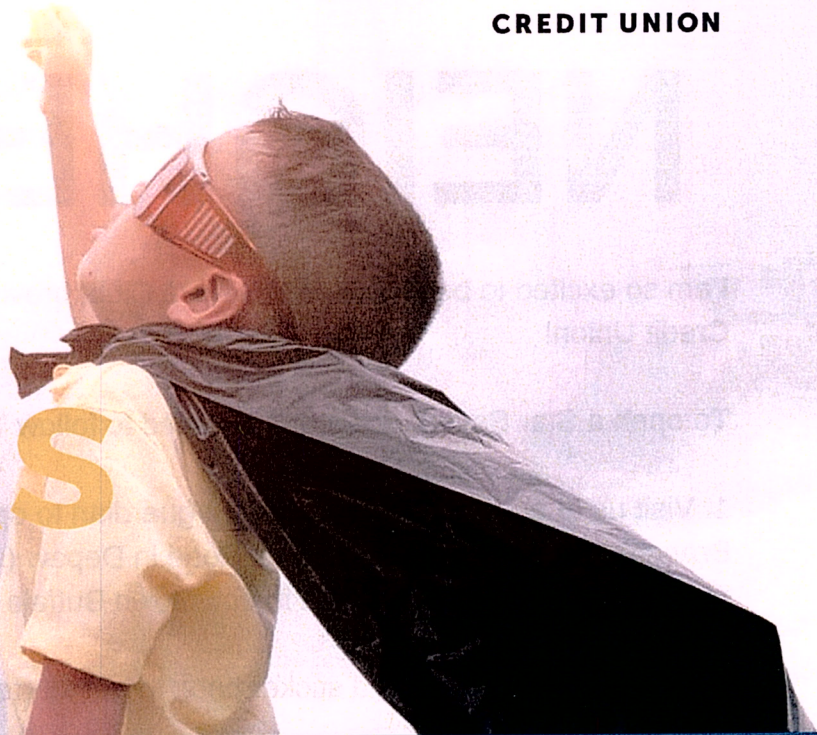
10 am - 3 pm • BUFFALO CONVENTION CENTER

Dream. Inspire. Explore.



GoodNeighbors
CREDIT UNION

STAR SAVERS CLUB



A YOUTH SAVINGS PROGRAM

Open a savings account for your child with our in-school savings program!

Help your child learn about money management and personal responsibility, all while making actual deposits into their new savings account once a week at their school. Students will earn stickers and prizes for smart saving!

Students will receive:

1. A Star Savers Club pouch for their deposits
2. A passbook to hold their stickers
3. Kid-friendly deposit slips
4. A Good Neighbors coin purse
5. Quarterly newsletter with fun financial education activities



Your savings federally insured to
at least \$250,000 and backed by
the full faith and credit of the
United States Government

HELLO NEIGHBOR!

I am so excited to begin our Star Savers Club, provided by the Good Neighbors Credit Union!

To open a Star Savers account, you need to follow **TWO** simple steps!

1. Visit us at our branch with a parent/guardian to open your account. Our Main Branch is located at 30 Brunswick Road in Depew (right across from the TOPS plaza!) We also have a branch in downtown Buffalo at 346 Connecticut Street.

2. Receive your pouch and sticker book to get started!

You can bring your deposits in your pouch to school every **TUESDAY** and drop them off in our locked mailbox in the Main Office. Deposits will be picked up by a credit union employee first thing in the morning!

With each deposit you'll earn 1 sticker in your sticker book. Once you've earned 20 stickers, you get a prize! How cool is that?

Can't wait for you to join us!

Mary Sullivan
Director of Development & Education

Good Neighbors Credit Union
30 Brunswick Road, Depew, NY
mary@goodneighborscu.com
716-681-1460 ext. 111





BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

A private scholarship fund providing tuition assistance for low-income families in the 8 counties of Western New York who want to enroll their children in private schools.

BISON Scholarship Quick Facts:

- Average scholarship \$1,300
- Max scholarship \$2,100
- Currently BISON has over 1,800 scholars in 70 different private elementary schools in Western New York.
- Each family must contribute toward their child's private education.

step one

Complete a **pre-application online at bisonfund.com** between January 1 - February 28. If you have any questions, you can call BISON at (716) 854-0869 ext. 1.

step three

If selected, complete the full application online. Enroll your child(ren) in the school of their choice and ask the school to complete the School Commitment Form.

step two

Watch for notification after the **BISON Lottery** is held in March. Winners are notified by email and wait-listed families are also notified.

step four

Once all the steps are completed, BISON will notify you of your scholarship amount. Watch for notices to annually renew your BISON Scholarship in February.



BISON Contact Information:

Cindy McDonald, Program Director (program questions)
Amy Popadick, Executive Director (fundraising questions)

(716) 854-0869 ext. 1 | cmcdonald@bisonfund.com
(716) 854-0869 ext. 3 | apopadick@bisonfund.com



BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

FAQ FOR FAMILIES

More detailed information can be found on our website at www.bisonfund.com

Who qualifies for a BISON Scholarship?

Residents of the 8 counties of WNY with children entering K-8th grade with a total family income within the eligibility scale (details online). You may only apply for your biological or legal guardian children.

How do new families apply?

New families must complete a Pre-Application Form electronically (online) on our website at www.bisonfund.com. The new family deadline is February 28, 2018. Preference is NOT given to early applications; however you must apply by 2/28 to be considered for the lottery. Families applying after the February 28th deadline will be placed on our waitlist.



How are BISON scholarship recipients chosen?

Scholarships are awarded using a lottery from all submitted Pre-Application Forms in March 2018. Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application in order to receive the scholarship.

How do I know if I won the lottery?

All applicants will be notified of lottery results by email in March 2018.

I received a Scholarship award email ... now what?

In your award email, there will be a link that will take you where you need to go to complete your Full Application. Click on the link and follow the application steps. The deadline to complete the application is April 30, 2018. Please be sure to include all your income sources including your FEDERAL 1040 tax return, child support, business income, public assistance, food stamps, Social Security income, unemployment insurance, worker's compensation and financial assistance from family & friends. Select your school (a complete list can be found on our website) and contact the school to complete the School Commitment Form. After receipt of all the required documents, your scholarship will be calculated based on your household size and income, as well as tuition amount. You must requalify annually to continue with BISON.



I received an email that I'm on a waitlist ... now what?

Unfortunately, there are always more applicants than available funding. We keep waitlist names for the academic year hopeful that additional funding becomes available. If you are not taken off the waitlist, you will need to resubmit a Pre-Application next year to be considered.



Why do families have to pay part of the tuition?

One key component of educational success is parental involvement. Making a financial sacrifice is a strong incentive to becoming and remaining involved. BISON scholarships are a hand-up, not a hand-out. BISON families are required to pay a minimum of \$500 each year.

What if I am not satisfied with my child's school?

You are free to transfer your student to another private school. Your scholarship will transfer with you unless you are delinquent with tuition payments or a child is asked to leave. Contact the BISON Fund office if you decide to transfer and we will walk you through the next steps.

Can the scholarship be used for Pre-K or High School?

No. Children must be at least 5 years old by 12/21/18 and entering kindergarten through 8th grade to be eligible for a BISON scholarship.

