

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 8 NOVEMBER 29, 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and that you had the opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

This Friday is our Merry Moose shop and it is also our Christian Witness Mass at Church. Please remember that December 4th is a 1:00 dismissal.

Mr. Hunter and I are looking at plays for this year. We are in need of volunteers to help us with this year’s production. If you can volunteer your time and talents, in any capacity, please let me know.

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 12/1 - Christian Witness Mass 8:30, Merry Moose Shop
- 12/4 - 1:00 Dismissal, Dress Down
- 12/8 - NO FAST Club
- 12/16 - Christmas Concert & Living Nativity
- 12/22 - 12/29 - No School, Christmas Break
- 1/1 - 1/2 - No School
- 1/3 - School Resumes
- 1/5 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am

MERRY MOOSE

Our annual Merry Moose Holiday Shop is Friday!

Our students love to shop for their special someone from the assortment of gifts all priced at \$5 or less!

We are now accepting donations of wrapping paper, tissue paper, ribbon, gift bags & tape! Please send them to the office ATTN: Merry Moose.

Please see the schedule & information in today’s blue folder.

If you are interested in helping please email Jenifer Carroll at jcarr2300@gmail.com. Thank you!



FUNDRAISERS BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

From Nov 13 – Nov 26, 2017, the Scrip rebate profit earned for the school was \$391.33.

Monthly Scrip Sales Goal	Monthly Scrip Profit Goal
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00

November Sales-to-Date	November Profit-to-Date
\$35,622.00	\$2,048.12

CANDY BAR SALE:

2016-2017:

10 Families Opted Out

10 x 2 boxes ea = \$480 **lost** Profit

2017-2018:

57 Families have not participated
57 x 2 boxes = \$2736 **missing** Profit

Short 2 top selling families = over 400 boxes... \$9,600 missing profit

AUTUMN GOLD:

2016-2017:

Tickets Sold: 593
Profit: \$17,649

2017-2018:

Tickets Sold: 548
Profit: \$14,094

X-STREAM GAMES

We hope that you will join us at the 2017 X-STREAM Games and Expo taking place this Sunday December 3rd at St. Joe's Collegiate (see enclosed flyer).

Come and see how our diocesan schools have embraced STREAM integration.

SME students will showcase their Arcade games, Lip Balm business, and the SME Robotics team will compete against other school teams in competition.

ART CLUB



Art Club will be starting on Wednesday, November 29th.

There will be six sessions: 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20, 1/3 & 1/10.

A \$15 supply fee per child will be due at the first session. Students will be creating two projects, one on canvas and the other will be sculptural Paper Mache, clay etc.

Each session will run from 2:30 - 3:15. If your child is not picked up by 3:25 they will be sent to FAST Club and charges will apply.

LIVING NATIVITY

On Saturday, December 16th, 2017 at 6:00pm, Saint Mary’s Elementary School will present **JOY TO THE WORLD!** – a Living Nativity Christmas Celebration.

Our school band will present their Christmas Concert beginning at 6pm. The Living Nativity presentation will begin at 7pm. Students will present this beautiful depiction of our Lord’s birth in the SME school gymnasium.

Grades K-8 will be a part of this production! Students will be singing and acting with a backdrop of the manger including live animals, just as it was on that busy day in Bethlehem.

We hope that you will join us!



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FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

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

ATHLETICS

A special thank you is to all that attended the Fall sports banquet! It was a great night awarding our student athletes and their coaches!

An additional thank you to Maria Cudeck for doing the program and all she did in the kitchen with the help from Amanda Argentieri and Shannon Bauer!

If anyone is interested in helping with the future banquets, please contact me: athletics@smeschool.com

Basketball season is upon us and some teams have already played in their 1st game and many will be playing this week. Basketball schedules will be posted on the school website as soon as possible. Players will receive their schedule from the coach. Wishing all a very successful and FUN basketball season!

- Julie Wiperman, Athletic Dir.

FEBRUARY FREEZE



Mark your calendars for the 2018 February Freeze!

This basketball tournament, hosted by SME will be for 5th through 8th graders.

It will take place from Thursday, February 15 - Sunday, February 18 at SME.

If you would like to help in the preparation for this tournament, please email Julie Wolford at jmwolford7473@yahoo.com.



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

The 2018 Battle of the Books will take place on Friday, January 12th at 6:00pm.

4th/5th grade Titles

Rollergirl by Victoria Jamieson
Swindle by Gordon Korman
Tornado by Betsy Byars

6th/7th/8th grade Titles

El Deafo by Cece Bell
The Teacher's Funeral by Richard Peck
The Menagerie by Tui and Kari Sutherland

SET will be buying copies of the books for the school library.

Please see the registration form in the blue folder today!

HSA

Notices are going out to any family who has yet to return or purchase the KidStuff Coupon book(s). If you have any questions, please email Amanda Kuhn at secretary@smeschool.com. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter so that we can close out our sale.

Congratulations to the 5th Gr. Class members who received a free snack coupon for having the most in attendance at Family Fun Night. Here are some photos of the fun!



8TH GR. BOTTLE DRIVE

We want to thank all of 8th grade families who participated in the Bottle Drive this past Saturday.

The church pavilion was bustling with bottles, cans and excitement. At the pavilion we sorted through 18,000 recyclable items and earned over \$1,000. **Thank You** to all of our families who took their recycled items directly to the redemption center and to those who dropped items just to help the class.

A very big THANK YOU goes out to the Jasinski Family for all of their help counting, sorting and trucking bottles back and forth to the Deposit Depot, along with another big THANK YOU to the Arnold family who unexpectedly rolled up with nourishment at the perfect moment.

Big thanks for your time and talents to Mrs. Morrella, Mr. Kroll, Mrs. Kuhn, the Kasinskis and the Janiks.

Please continue to bring in your bottles with your name on them to the office to keep the drive going!



SCRIP

We are having a 2nd Parish Gift Card Sale this Sunday 12/3 after all masses (8:30-2:00). If you are interested in helping, please contact us at scrip@smeschool.com.

The faculty/staff wish lists are now available in the Scrip office. As always, if you place your order on Monday, it will be sent home on Friday.

There are only 2 order dates left before Christmas – the last order for 2017 will be 12/11/17. The Scrip office will remain open on 12/13/17, 12/15/17, 12/18/17 and 12/20/17 for walk-in orders.



We have the following low denomination gift cards available while supplies last:

Amazon.com - \$10
Applebee's - \$10
Barnes & Noble - \$5
CVS - \$10
Olive Garden - \$10
The Home Depot - \$10
IHOP - \$10
Outback - \$10
Panera - \$5
Red Lobster - \$10
Regal - \$10
Starbucks - \$5
Target - \$10
Walmart - \$10

MISSION POSSIBLE

To date, we have donated 1854 cans/boxes of food to the Buffalo City Mission! Additionally, we have contributed 272 cans/boxes of food to our St. Mary's Church Thanksgiving collection, totaling 2111 cans/boxes of food. Our collection period ends December 8th. Please keep the cans/boxes of food coming so we can finish strong in the Buffalo City Mission Food Challenge. The e-scoreboard for the Mission Possible Challenge shows us in the lead for this challenge, but the e-scoreboard may not have been updated recently. Let's push hard this next week and up our donations. The poor and vulnerable need our help!

STAY IN THE KNOW

Save the Date: Christmas Concert
12/16, 6:00pm

Save the Date: Joy to the World,
Living Nativity Celebration, Saturday
December 16 @ 7:00

Save the Date: February Freeze Basketball Tournament 2/15 - 2/18/18

November 29, 2017



Dear Parents,

It's the holiday season and time for our Merry Moose Shop sponsored by the Home School Association. We invite your children to come shop for their family and friends. There will be a variety of items available at prices ranging from .50 to \$5.00.

This exciting event will be held this Friday, December 1st in the gym during the school day. Parents are welcome to come and assist their children with their purchases. Although the items are very reasonable, parents are NOT allowed to make purchases of their own. This is for the children only. We want to make sure there are enough gifts for all the classes. However, parents may make purchases at the end of the school day.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

Pre K	anytime during the day with a parent	4th	11:17 -11:48
Kindergarten	8:45 - 9:27	8th	11:50 – 12:27
5th	9:29 - 10:03	2nd	12:29 – 1:03
6th	10:05 -10:39	3rd	1:05 – 1:39
7th	10:41 – 11:15	1st	1:41 – 2:09

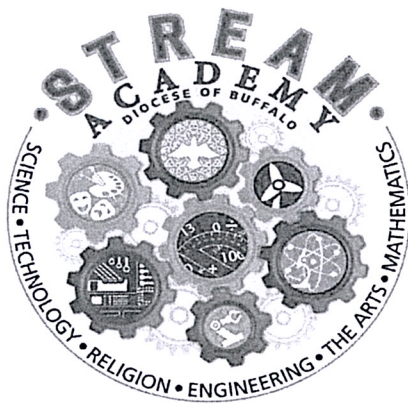
Envelopes will be included in today's blue folder. Please put the money that your child can spend in this envelope and list the people for whom he/she may want to buy for and how much to spend on each person. Send this in with your child on Friday, December 1st. We stress this especially to the older students who may have not brought them in the past. It causes a lot of chaos for the volunteers. When a student chooses an item, a volunteer then needs to make sure that dollar amount is written on the envelope. When they are finished shopping the cashier will total all the amounts on the envelope. This is how we keep track as we do not put prices on the actual items. So please send those in!

We look forward to seeing you and/or your children at the Merry Moose Shop this year. As always thank you for your support and participation! If you have any questions, please email Jennifer Carroll at jcarr2300@gmail.com.

Merry Christmas!

Jennifer Carroll & Jen Lipiarz

Oh, What Fun!! Come and Enjoy!

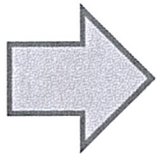


4th Annual

X-STREAM

GAMES and EXPO!

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INNOVATORS, SCIENTISTS, and BELIEVERS!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017

St. Joseph Collegiate Institute 12:00-3:30 p.m.

ENTRANCE FEE: One canned food item per person to support SJCI Food Basket Drive.

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 11:15 Early Bird Robotics: Team Check-in and Staging
- 12:00 All other STREAM ACADEMY Courses: Check in and Set Up
- 12:00 Robotics Competition Begins: Over 30+ teams every year!
- 1:00 Science Scrimmage Event: Alternative Fuels: Wind Energy Competition
- 1:00 Academy Demonstrations until 2:30
 - The "Best of" Arcade Academy Games to Play
 - Video Gaming Venue- Student Created!
 - Lip Balm Sales: Student Companies
 - "Ignite the Power of Art" Student Showcase
 - Roller Coaster Gallery Walk
 - Other Academy Demos: PEAP, FUTURE CITIES, SPROUTS, LEGO U!!!!!!!
- 1:30 "Shark Tank" for our Innovators
- 2:00 Kitchen Chemistry Cook-Off
- 3:30 Robotics Finals

SNACKS

AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE!

BILLS vs PATRIOTS
VIEWING ROOM

SME's School Effectiveness Team presents...

Battle of the Books and Ready SET Read Night!

Friday, January 12, 2018 6:00-8:00pm

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS is for students in grades 4-8. There are two Battle of the Books divisions. The 4th & 5th grade Battle will be held in the school cafeteria. The 6th, 7th, & 8th grade Battle will be held in the gym. There will be cash prizes for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place team in each division. There will also be a "Team Spirit" award in each division for the team that has the most creative team name, costumes, & poster. Teams can have one to four members. All students should sign up their teams with Mrs. Janik in the school library beginning tomorrow. Please complete and return the form below and send in registration fees.

READY SET READ is a fun literacy event for students in grades pre-K 3 through grade 3 and their families. Does your family like camping, the outdoors, and s'mores? This year's theme is "Camp Cozy" and will include guest readers, crafty activities, reading challenge, raffle, and more! Put your pajamas on and join us for a reading adventure that starts in the Parish Center. Please complete and return the form below and send in registration fees.

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 school office.

To help us prepare for this event, please let us know if you and your child will be attending. Complete and return the below portion of the page along with a payment of \$5 per child. The fee is used to cover the cost of crafts, activities and prizes at the event. Please include an additional \$10 per family to cover the cost of pizza and subs for the entire family. Return the form and payment in an envelope labelled "SET" by Dec. 22.

We are asking that each family bring the following items to the event:
 Pre-K, Kindergarten, grades 6 & 7- a side dish (salad, fruit, chips, veggies)
 Grades 3-5- a dessert
 Grades 1, 2 & 8- two 2 liters of pop or equivalent of water or another 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 _____ Family email _____

Name and grades of children attending:

Student's name:	Grade:	\$5 per each child attending:
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Include \$10 per family for pizza and subs.

\$10.00

Total enclosed:

Total number of family members that will be eating pizza and subs:

Food item that we will bring to the event: _____

And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Mt. 25:40



SME Comfort Tree

We are looking for your help to bring comfort to the homeless. Our donations for adults will be delivered to *Little Portion Friary* in Buffalo and will serve the needs of the homeless that enter through their doors. Donations for children will be delivered to the *Lancaster Youth Bureau* to serve children in our community. Help us to decorate our comfort tree with the following items:

Warm Hats

Gloves/Mittens

Scarves

Warm Socks

Blessing Bags

We are also collecting the following toiletries for the homeless. We will assemble individual *Blessing Bags* that will include:

Toothpaste

Toothbrush

Deodorant

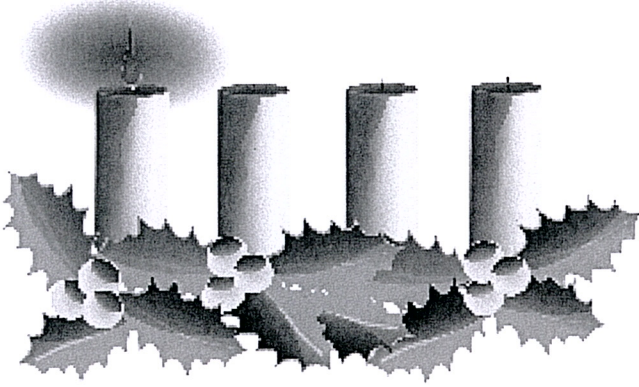
Hand Sanitizer

**The collection period will run from
November 30 - December 14th.**

**Thank you for participating in these works of mercy
and for being Christ to others. God Bless you!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> I will spend a few extra minutes in prayer today.	4 I will do my work well today and with joy for God.	5 I will secretly do a kind act for someone.	6 <i>St. Nicholas</i> I will donate like-new toys and books I've outgrown to needy families.	7 <i>St. Ambrose</i> I will obey my parents, my teachers, and others in charge of me.	8 <i>Immaculate Conception of Mary</i> I will honor Mary in a very special way today by being cheerful.	9 <i>St. Juan Diego</i> I will be kind in a special way to someone I do not like much.
10 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> I will try to show special love for someone who seems unhappy or lonely.	11 I will work hard today and do my best.	12 <i>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> I will ask Mary to help me make room for Jesus in my heart.	13 <i>St. Lucy</i> I will keep calm and not lose my temper when I am pushed or treated rudely.	14 <i>St. John of the Cross</i> I will do some work for my parents to help them rest after a day of work.	15 I will eat more of what is good for me today and less of what is not.	16 I will try to be more thoughtful of others.
17 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> I will find a quiet place and sit for a few minutes, just letting God love me.	18 I will not complain today, even if I must do things I do not want to do.	19 I will try to be patient today.	20 I will make a special effort to be kind to those I find it hard to like.	21 <i>St. Peter Canisius</i> I will speak kindly to all I meet today.	22 I will be helpful at home these last days before Jesus' birthday.	23 I will give a smile to all I meet today.
24 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> I welcome Jesus with great love and offer him all the good acts I have performed and the prayers I have said during Advent.	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!					
ADVENT 2017 <i>May Christ our Savior bring light into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming.</i>						
LOYOLA PRESS. A JESUIT MINISTRY						

Faith Focus



This week's family connection activity is based on the Gospel reading for Sunday December 3rd.

Peace,
Mrs. Hoag

First Sunday of Advent, Cycle B

Sunday, December 3, 2017

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus warns his disciples to be watchful so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes.

Family Connection

**From Loyola Press*

In family life, we try to prepare ourselves for many future things: our next vacation, our children's education, our retirement. We are careful not to allow ourselves to be caught by surprise so that we can handle any challenges our family may face. Today's Gospel reminds us that we are called to be just as attentive and alert to the coming of the Son of Man so that it will not catch us unprepared. This means attending to our family's spiritual life as carefully as we attend to other important family matters.

As you gather as a family, talk about a time when you received surprise visitors at your house, perhaps a neighbor who stopped by or a relative who arrived unannounced. Was your household prepared to receive this unannounced guest? What might your family have done differently if you knew ahead of time that this visitor was going to arrive? Jesus told his disciples that no one knows when the Son of Man will return, except the Father.

Read with your family what Jesus told his disciples in today's Gospel, **Mark 13:33-37**.

*During Advent, we not only prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we also check to see if we are doing all the things that will keep us ready to receive Jesus when he comes again. **Talk about** how your family can recommit to daily prayer, reading Scripture, and staying faithful to God's commandments. **Pray together** that through this Advent season your family will be more prepared to receive Jesus when he comes again.*

Read as a concluding prayer Paul's words to the Corinthians found in today's second reading, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, or pray the Lord's Prayer.

Stewardship



Time - Talent - Treasure

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Time: _____

Talent: _____

Treasure: _____

Please return to school with your child in an envelope marked:

Retention and Recruitment Committee