

# NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 11      DECEMBER 20, 2017



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...



Happy Wednesday!

I would like to congratulate all of our students who participated in the Living Nativity this past Saturday. Everybody did a phenomenal job and truly showed the meaning of the season. Thank you to all who helped to make the evening so special!

I want to share the following Christmas Blessing with you...

Best wishes for a blessed and joyous holiday season!!

God's Peace and Love,  
Mrs. Kwitowski



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 12/22 - 12/29 - No School, Christmas Break
- 1/1 - 1/2 - No School
- 1/3 - School Resumes, Dress Down \$1
- 1/5 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 1/8 - RSR Dress Down with book donation
- 1/12 - Ready SET Read / Battle of the Books, 6:00pm
- 1/15 - No School, MLK Jr. Day

## FUNDRAISERS BY THE NUMBERS

### SCRIP:

From Dec 11 – Dec 17, 2017, the Scrip rebate profit earned for the school was \$796.38.

Monthly Scrip Sales Goal	Monthly Scrip Profit Goal
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
December Sales-to-Date	December Profit-to-Date
\$40,606.00	\$2,498.10

### CANDY BAR SALE:

We still have 85 boxes left in inventory = \$2,040 to SME

Over 750 boxes have been distributed. All orders have been filled at this point.

Amount Collected:    \$ 27,067  
Chocolate Invoices: - \$ 22,750  
Profit thus far:        \$ 4,317

**Amount outstanding: \$ 9,755**

### Mega Raffle:

If you would like a specific number, be sure to order soon! Orders will be picked up each Monday and will be sent home or mailed out by the corresponding Friday. If you are interested in joining our committee, or helping with the event in any way, please contact Mary Kate DeMarizo at [megaraffle@smeschool.com](mailto:megaraffle@smeschool.com) or 510-1409.

## LIVING NATIVITY



We will be sponsoring a \$1 dress down day on Wednesday, January 3rd for Lakeview Animal Sanctuary. Since 1982 Lakeview Animal Sanctuary has been a non-profit, no-kill home for abused, abandoned or unwanted animals. Lakeview has been wonderful to come out with their animals the past few years for our Living Nativity.



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## KITCHEN NEWS

Tomorrow, December 21st, the Kitchen is offering a **free** pizza lunch to **every** student! Simply have your child indicate to their teacher in the morning that they would like to purchase the main lunch ('A' lunch option) and they will receive their lunch at no charge! Please note that this is for the pizza option only.





## ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Lancaster, NY 14086

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

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

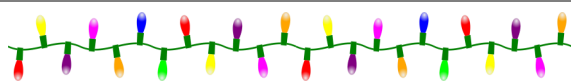
## SNOWBALL DANCE

The 7th Annual Snowball Dance will be held on Friday, February 2nd at St. Greg's Ministry Center.

This dance is sponsored by the Catholic Elementary School HSAs in the Northtowns.

Grade's 5 & 6 will dance from 6-8pm  
Grades 7 & 8 will dance from 9-11pm

If you have any questions or are interested in helping with chaperoning please contact Amanda Wentland at [tawentland@aol.com](mailto:tawentland@aol.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

**Books Wanted!** SET is collecting gently used books for the book sale at Battle of the Books/Ready, SET, Read Night on January 12. A donation box is located in the school office. Thank you for your help!

## CHOCOLATE SALE

We ask that you please send in your money as soon as your box of chocolate is sold. We will not be ordering any more chocolate. However, we still have a few of the specialty Gertrude boxes (Lite & Lively, Dark & Delicious and O-La-La Luscious) available.

Our last offering this year will be THE SNOWFLAKE MIX... a combination of your favorite Gertrude Flavors in one box. No 2 boxes are the same, but you know you love Gertrude, so enjoy a delicious surprise!

Notifications as to what prize you are eligible for will be coming home soon and you can choose which reward your child would like to participate in. We are also putting together reward dates and if your chocolate is not paid, your child will not be included.

For those families who have sold 4 boxes - please consider taking one more so your child can be included in the **Tape the Teacher** event during Catholic Schools Week. Forms are being sent home for your convenience. **ORDER TODAY** - first come, first serve.

Thank you, The Chocolate Team

## ATHLETIC NEWS

All basketball schedules are now available on the school websites Athletics tab. Check them out and come out to support your friends & classmates at their next game!

Congratulations to the Gr. 3/4 Boys Basketball team on their win this past Saturday over Queen of Heaven with a score of 12-10!

## 8TH GRADE ELA FUN

Our 8th graders enjoyed a visit from Jennifer Fitzery from Shea's who came in to teach a theater workshop. She immersed the 8th grade class into the world and characters of To Kill a Mockingbird.



## SCRIP

November and December were very strong months for sales – let's keep the momentum going! Together, we can continue to make the SCRIP program a success to our school, our Parish and for our children!

Please contact the Scrip office at [scrip@smeschool.com](mailto:scrip@smeschool.com) to find out how you can support this fundamental program.

The Scrip office will be open 5 days a week through 12/20/17 for walk-in orders, based upon availability. The next order will be placed on 1/8/18.

Thank you for your continued support of the Scrip program!!

## 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](mailto:jmwolford7473@yahoo.com).



## LABELS FOR EDUCATION

The Campbell's Labels for Education program is coming to an end. The last day to send in your labels is Thursday, December 21st! All labels received will be mailed out on or before January 2nd. Any label received after this point will be recycled as they are no longer accepted. Thank you all for your support of this fundraiser.



## STAY IN THE KNOW

**Save the Date:** RSR/Battle Dress Down Day - January 8th with the donation of a book for the book sale!

**Save the Date:** Ready SET Read & Battle of the Books, January 12th

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

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.

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**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:
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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: \_\_\_\_\_



# Join us for an adventure!

## Ready, SET, Read Night

Friday, January 12, 2018

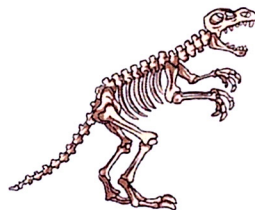
6 to 8 p.m.

Put your pajamas on and bring your favorite stuffed animal and sleeping bag to the School Effectiveness Team's annual literacy event for SME students in pre-K through third grade.

Our adventure starts in the Parish Center and features dinner, crafts, guest readers, reading challenge reveal and prizes, raffles, and more!



Special Guest Reader



Dinosaur fossil mining!



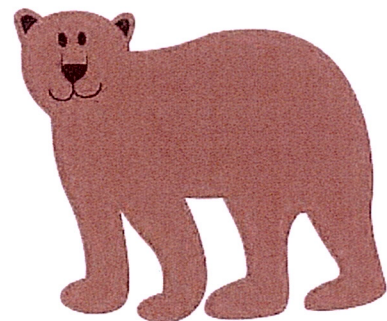
Dance party to GoNoodle!



Make a glow lantern!



S'mores!



Pictures with Buddy Bear—the Ready SET Read Mascot!

Send in your registration form today!





## ***Faith Focus***

This week's family connection activity is based on the Gospel reading for Sunday December 24th.

Peace,  
Mrs. Hoag

Fourth Sunday of Advent, *Cycle B*

## **Gospel Reading**

**Luke 1:26-38**

**The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.**

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## **Family Connection**

*\*From Loyola Press*

One of the challenges of faith is to recognize God's plan for us and to remain open to God's will and God's actions in our world. Filled with God's grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God's plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God's saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God's grace working in our lives.

Gather together your family and talk about what you have been doing as a family to prepare for Christmas. How have these preparations helped you to better celebrate the central mystery of Christmas, the Incarnation? Our Gospel today talks about how Mary was prepared for her role in Christ's birth. **Read today's Gospel, Luke 1:26-38.** Consider the question: What enabled Mary to say yes to God? Which of your Advent activities have made you more aware of God's grace in your life? Conclude in prayer together that God's grace will enable your family to be more faithful and obedient to God.

Pray together the *Magnificat*.

# SAVE THE DATE

WRAP UP CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S WEEK IN THE NORTHTOWNS AT OUR 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL



## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2018

ST. GREG'S MINISTRY CENTER — 200 ST. GREGORY CT, WILLIAMSVILLE

GRADES 5 & 6 — 6:00-8:00 PM

GRADES 7 & 8 — 9:00-11:00 PM

GET YOUR  
TICKETS NOW!

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TO BUY  
visit [www.FRCDB.com/SNOWBALL](http://www.FRCDB.com/SNOWBALL)

FOR QUESTIONS  
please email Audra DiStefano  
at [adistefano@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:adistefano@buffalodiocese.org)

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& LOCAL DJ!

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FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN WNY