

# NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 14     JANUARY 17, 2018

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

We have selected a school play for this year. It is going to be the Aristocats. Mr. Hunter and I will be working on the play. To quote John Heywood "Many hands make light work", so if you are able to help us out in any capacity, we would greatly appreciate it. Please contact me.

Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be attending a Kids Escaping Drugs Assembly on Thursday. If you do not wish for your child to participate,

please remember to send back in your opt out form.

Tonight is our HSA meeting. Following the meeting will be a presentation by a Kids Escaping Drugs counselor. I am encouraging parents to attend if you are able to.

Thank you for all that you do for SME!!

God's Peace and Love,  
Mrs. Kwitowski



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 1/17 - HSA Meeting 6:00
- 1/28-2/3 - Catholic Schools Week
- 1/28 - Pancake Breakfast 8:30am -12:00pm
- 2/2 - Distinguished Graduate Mass, 8:30
- 2/3 - Ice Cream Social following 4:30 mass
- 2/3 - Spirit Games
- 2/5 - 1:00 Dismissal
- 2/6 - New Family Open House 6-7:30pm

## SME SWAG

Did you know that we carry the following SME Swag all year long in the school office:

Note from Home Pads - \$1 *Is there something more/else you'd like to see added to the pads before we order more??*  
Logo Patches - \$1.25  
Car Magnets - \$2.00  
SME Parent T-Shirts - \$10

Contact Amanda Kuhn at [secretary@smeschool.com](mailto:secretary@smeschool.com) to place your order!



## FUNDRAISERS BY THE NUMBERS

### SCRIP:

From Jan 8 – Jan 14, 2018, the Scrip rebate profit earned for the school was \$205.01.

<u>Monthly Scrip Sales Goal</u>	<u>Monthly Scrip Profit Goal</u>
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
<u>January Sales-to-Date</u>	<u>January Profit-to-Date</u>
\$5,320.00	\$266.59

### CANDY BAR SALE:

Letters have gone out to every family with regards to how many boxes have been sold and what if any payment is outstanding. Please return any outstanding payments and your prize selection today! Orders are still being accepted if you are able to continue to support the sale.

### Mega Raffle:

Tickets Sold to date: **104**

Tickets Remaining: **546**

Last year, we sold out before the event, so be sure to get your tickets soon! Orders will be picked up each Monday and will be sent home or mailed out by the corresponding Friday.

## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Thank you all for your understanding in the postponing of our Battle of the Books / Ready SET Read night. The safety of our students, families & faculty is always at the forefront of our decision making. The new date will be announced next week. If your child is unable to attend, a refund will be issued.



## HSA

This evening the HSA meeting will include a visit from Jessica Hutchings from Kids Escaping Drugs. Even if you were not able to RSVP we still highly encourage you to attend this informative presentation. The meeting will begin at 6:00.



Our next Pancake Breakfast on Sunday January 28th to kick off Catholic Schools Week. The breakfast will run from 8:30 - Noon. As always we are looking for help from our NJHS &/or Student Council Members to act as servers. A sign up sheet is available in the cafeteria. Help from younger students is also welcome with a parent. Parents interested in helping should contact Annelis Szuder at [smsszuder@gmail.com](mailto:smsszuder@gmail.com).

Come on out and help support SME's Fund-raiser Night with the Buffalo Bandits! Sat February 10, 2018, Game time 7:30pm Tickets are just \$15 each & \$5 from each sale is Donated back to SME!

To purchase tickets, go to: <https://groupmatics.events/Stmarys3>

FUN NIGHT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



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## ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Lancaster, NY 14086

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

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

"...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).



## MEGA RAFFLE

As a reminder, the Mega Raffle fundraiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. So far, 28 of the tickets have been sold or purchased by school families – thank you for your support!! Please feel free to get creative with Social Media (posting this great opportunity to Facebook feeds, etc) as well as encourage multiple people to chip in on one ticket! Every ticket sold gets us closer to our goal and makes sure we have a successful drive! Thank you again for all of your continued support on this important fundraiser.

*Prize winners will be announced at the live drawing on  
Friday, June 1st at 6:30 in the Parish Center.*



Flyers are available in the front office if you would like to bring them to your place of business to sell - people love a raffle!

If you are interested in joining our committee, or helping out the night of the event, please contact Mary Kate DeMarizo at [megaraffle@smeschool.com](mailto:megaraffle@smeschool.com) or 510-1409.



*Congratulations to our  
December  
Christian Witness Recipients!*

## READ TO RIDE

SME students in grades Kindergarten - 5th are able to earn a FREE ticket to Darien Lake during the months of July and August 2018 just by reading for seven (7) hours between this week and February 15!

SME has enrolled in the Darien Lake Read to Ride program which promotes recreational reading. "The seven hours of reading can be in the form of reading to oneself, reading to another person or being read to by others. Students may read books, magazines, or newspapers."

Your child was given a **Student Tracking Chart** to keep track of the book, magazine, or article and amount of reading time they will complete. Students MUST hand the Student Tracking Sheet back in to their teacher no later than February 15, 2018.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Trulin at [trulinc@smeschool.com](mailto:trulinc@smeschool.com)



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Parents: We need your 'Whys'! In today's blue folder you will find a letter titled 'We Love SME'. Please take a moment to read it and submit your 'why SMEs' by 1/24.

Students will be making tie-dye shirts during gym class for CSW! Please send in a white t-shirt (this does not have to be a new shirt) labeled with your child's name & grade in a plastic bag. Please see the schedule in next week's NewsNote to know what day they will be worn.



## SCRIP

Do you have a tip or trick to maximize the way you order/use scrip to get the most bang for your buck and support for the school? Email them to [scrip@smeschool.com](mailto:scrip@smeschool.com) so that we can 'share with the class'! Lets get everyone working smarter not harder towards our monthly sales & profit goals!

The Scrip office is now back to the regular schedule of Mon/Wed/Fri 8:00 - 10:00am. Thank you for your continued support of the Scrip program!!

## BISON FUND



Giving Parents a Choice.  
Giving Children a Chance.

As we welcome 2018 we are accepting Pre-Applications for funding for the 2018-2019 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, 2018.

Current families will be e-mailed a link to complete the requalification process starting on February 15, 2018. The families will log into the scholarship database and upload their financial information. As a reminder the deadline for that paperwork is April 13, 2018.

## SPORTS REPORT



Congratulations to the Varsity Girls basketball team for winning the Saints Peter and Paul Tournament!

They beat St. Peter and Paul 35-30!

An additional congratulations to the All tournament team selections from SME: Margaret, Chloe and Christine. Christine was also the MVP of the tournament! Congrats to Coach Ted, Coach Bernie and the entire team!

Mark your calendar: Spirit Games coming soon! Saturday, Feb. 3rd! More info to come!

## 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.

There are several flyers in today's blue folder. Don't miss out on your chance to order a t-shirt or patron!



## STAY IN THE KNOW

**Save the Date:** 1/28 Pancake Breakfast 8:30am - 12:00pm

**Save the Date:** 2/3 Spirit Games & Ice Cream Social

**Save the Date:** 2/14 Parish Sponsored Clam Chowder Dinner

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



# We SME

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, Catholic Schools Week will start and will end on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. We would love to decorate our main hall with your testimonials as to why you love or chose St. Mary's Elementary School for your child and family. We would like each of our families to please write/type on white paper, special paper or however creative you would like to be, about **WHY** SME is important to you and your children, why do you love SME or what is important to you about Catholic Education here at SME. We hope you would also include a picture of your family or just your child(ren). We will be having our first Open House for NEW families on February 6<sup>th</sup> and we would like to keep these up for this purpose as well (our perspective new families LOVE to read these and what better way to show SME pride). Please be sure to sign your names or just your family name. Again, these will be used in our hallways and around our school to show our school spirit for Catholic Schools Week (the children love seeing their pictures in the hallway too, and they will take a moment to read others as well). This has become a tradition here the past 5 years. Great Job SME, let's do it again! If you are able to help us with this, please return your testimonial to the school office by Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> attention: Mrs. Kierejewski. Thank you!!

St. Mary's Elementary  
Pancake Breakfast  
HSA Fundraiser



Sunday, January 28, 2018

Parish Center

2 St Mary's Hill, Lancaster

(716) 683-2112

8:30am-12:00pm

\$5 per person/\$20 per family of 4 or more

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

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Please complete & return this portion if you would like to help  
volunteer at this event Attn: HSA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



# ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

**BRING YOUR FAMILY  
TO A BUFFALO  
BANDITS GAME!**



**NATIVE AMERICAN NIGHT**

**vs GEORGIA SWARM  
SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 10 | 7:30PM**

VISIT THIS LINK TO PURCHASE  
BUFFALO CREEK 300 LEVEL  
TICKETS FOR \$15

<https://groupmatics.events/Stmarys3>

For more information please contact Melissa Rugg  
716-855-4420 [melissa.rugg@sabres.com](mailto:melissa.rugg@sabres.com)

**\$5 FROM EVERY TICKET SOLD WILL BE DONATED BACK TO SCHOOL**



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# SME'S 2018 FEBRUARY FREEZE



SME will be hosting the 2018 February Freeze Basketball Tournament from Thursday, February 15- Sunday, February 18. The tournament is for diocesan boys' and girls' basketball teams in grades 5-8. We had twenty teams take part last year and are hoping for even more this year. This event raised \$3,500 for our school's athletics fund. Here are the ways you can help make this year's February Freeze successful:

## **VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME:**

Please click on this link to sign up to volunteer at the tournament:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/smebasketball/sheet/68992/>

## **DONATE A BASKET:**

We are asking each of the SME Basketball teams to donate a basket valued at \$25 for the basket raffle that will be held at the tournament. If you are willing to put this basket together for your child's team, let your child's coach know. You can ask families from your child's team to donate a few dollars each to help purchase items for the basket.

We are also asking SME families to please consider donating a basket for the basket raffle. If you are able to donate a basket please email Julie Wolford at [jmwolford7473@yahoo.com](mailto:jmwolford7473@yahoo.com). Baskets can be dropped off at the athletic office beginning Monday, February 13.

## **SELL PROGRAM ADS:**

New this year, we would like to ask local businesses to sponsor our event by purchasing ads for our tournament program. We would like you to please share the attached letter with your business or other business contacts.

## **ORDER T-SHIRTS:**

This one's the easiest! See the attached order form to order your 2018 February Freeze t-shirts to wear when you cheer on our school! Orders must be received by Friday, January 26.

# ORDER YOUR 2018 FEBRUARY FREEZE T-SHIRT!

Please complete the order form below. Orders must be received by Friday, January 26.



Family Name \_\_\_\_\_ Family email \_\_\_\_\_

Size:

Youth Extra Small (size 2-4)

Youth Small (size 6-8)

Youth Medium (size 10-12)

Youth Large (size 14-16)

Youth Extra Large (size 18-20)

Adult Small

Adult Medium

Adult Large

Adult XL

Adult 2 XL

Quantity:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total

\_\_\_\_\_ x \$12.00 each = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form along with cash or check payable to "St. Mary's Elementary" in an envelope labelled "February Freeze T-shirts attn: Julie Wolford".

Orders must be received by Friday, January 26.

Dear Friends of St. Mary's Elementary,

Our 2nd annual February Freeze Basketball Tournament is quickly approaching. The dates of the tournament are Thursday, February 15th—Sunday, February 18th. The tournament is for boys and girls basketball teams from 5th through 8th grade. Last year we had 20 teams participate and hundreds of visitors came to the games. In addition to adding teams to this year's tournament, we are looking to enhance the Tournament Program to include advertising and local community support. We are asking your support in sponsoring this popular athletic event. As a local business, we encourage you to promote your business with a business ad or a business card .

If interested, we would encourage you to come catch some of the games during the following dates and times:

- ⇒ Thursday 2/15 5-9 pm
- ⇒ Friday 2/16 5-9 pm
- ⇒ Saturday 2/17 9 am– 9 pm
- ⇒ Sunday 2/18 9 am—2pm (championship games)

We truly appreciate the opportunity to have you consider supporting our 2nd Annual February Freeze Basketball Tournament.

Sincerely,

All of the volunteer Coaches & Parents



Please cut here and return below portion with your payment to St. Mary's Elementary School by Monday February 5th, 2018 to the attention of Mike Wolford

### Payable with cash or check to “St. Mary’s of the Assumption”



1/4 page size ad \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

1/2 page size ad \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Full page size ad \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

**SME**

Please attach a business card, printed sheet or email file to

[mwolford@ppg.com](mailto:mwolford@ppg.com)



# ST MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2 St. Mary's Hill  
Lancaster, NY 10486-2033  
www.smeschool.com

Phone: (716) 683-2112  
Fax: (716) 683-2134  
*"...visible examples of gospel living"*

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January 17, 2018

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.

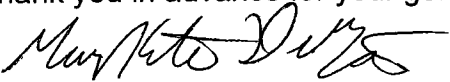
At this time, we are looking for donations for baskets to raise additional funds for this year's Mega Raffle on June 1, 2018.

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 send you donation in with your student, **Attention: Mega Raffle**. 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!

We are unable to accept donations of wine or any other alcohol.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

  
Steve & Mary Kate DeMarzio (Mega Raffle Chair Couple)

KK

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Theme (some items are listed for ideas)</u>
PreK-3	Lottery
PreK-4	Cleaning: paper towels, Windex, new cloths, dusters, etc
K	Valentine's Day: decorations
1 <sup>st</sup>	Beach/Summer 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, 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>	St. Patrick's Day: decorations, clothing
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>	Gardening: gloves, gardening tools, seeds, knee pads, etc.
8 <sup>th</sup>	Lottery

# Student Council Sponsored Monthly Dress Down Days

## January - Random Act Of Kindness for \$1 on Tuesday 1/16/18

Wear your favorite warm fuzzy outfit to support random acts of kindness and celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's ideals of change through peaceful actions.

Proceeds will support your Student Council.

## February - Heart Health Awareness Day for \$1 on Monday 2/12/18

Wear red to support the American Heart Association.

## March - Cancer Awareness Day for \$1 on Monday 3/12/18

Wear Lavender/Purple to support Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

## April - Autism Awareness Day for \$1 on Thursday 4/19/18

Wear tie-dye to support "My Brother Rocks the Spectrum"

My Brother Rocks The Spectrum Foundation is a non-profit organization that helps to provide an inclusive environment in all communities; to ensure ALL children can attend classes, social skills programs, and have one-to-one attendant care when needed; to support those with special needs through employment and additional resources; and to aid community leaders fighting for children of all abilities. All funds donated to MBRTS are distributed to families with children with special needs.

## May - Mental Health Awareness Day for \$1 on Monday 5/14/18

Wear green to support Catholic Charities of WNY who do so much for families in our community.

## June - Summer Safety Awareness Day for \$1 on Tuesday 6/5/18

Wear tropical to support local Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) & Fire Companies



### ***Faith Focus***

This week's family connection activity is based on the Gospel reading for Sunday January 21st.

Peace,  
Mrs. Hoag



### **Gospel Reading**

#### **Mark 1:14–20**

Jesus calls the fishermen, Simon and Andrew, James and John, to be his disciples.

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### **Family Connection**

*\*From Loyola Press*

Today's Gospel describes how Jesus called his first disciples and the immediacy with which these men dropped everything to follow him. We can only begin to imagine what Jesus' presence must have been like to invoke such a response in these first disciples. While a few of us might relate to such a radical conversion, many of us would find such a sudden change in ourselves or in another person unsettling. There are few things for which we would willingly drop everything. And yet this is the immediacy with which these first disciples responded to Jesus. These first disciples were willing to drop everything in order to make Jesus and the Kingdom of God the most important things in their lives.

Gather as a family and talk about circumstances in which you have had to "drop everything." (the call to pick up a sick child from school, the cry of a hurt or angry child) How did you feel about having to change your plans in each of these situations? How do we feel when someone asks us to drop everything to help him or her? For many of us, it is not easy to drop everything to respond to the needs of another.

**Read today's Gospel, Mark 1:14–20.** Invite your family to imagine what Jesus' presence and invitation to these first followers must have been like that they responded by leaving their livelihood to become his disciples. How might our life change if we understood the Kingdom of God to be as important and immediate in our lives? Ask God to help you experience the Kingdom of God with such immediacy. **Pray together the Lord's Prayer.**