

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 19 FEBRUARY 28, 2018

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

I hope that everybody had a relaxing and enjoyable break. I am glad to see the students back.

We had a very successful basketball tournament here last weekend. Congrats to our JV Boys & 8th grade girls for winning their divisions! Thank you to all who helped to make the tournament such a great success.

I need to ask parents to be mindful of parking when you are dropping your children off and picking them up. Several people have been parking their cars in front of the school. Cars cannot be left here. You need to park in the parking lot if you are coming in the building. It can become a safety hazard when the buses arrive. It is difficult to see around the cars and buses. The last thing we want is somebody getting hurt. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Next Friday, March 9th is our Mother/Son Bingo night. I hope to see many of our moms and sons there. It was a lot of fun last year!

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



Your commitment fee now includes supplies with the exception of Middle School calculators, headphones & other technology needs!

Re-Registration Packets have gone home!
March 1st is the last day to register to receive the \$50 discount.

Do you know someone who is interested in joining our family? Registration packets are available in the school office!

Transportation requests are due to Public School Districts on April 1. Parents of Catholic school students must request transportation services directly from the public school district in which they live. The deadline for submitting written requests for transportation is April 1, 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year. Failure to submit a request by this deadline might lead to the suspension of bus privileges for those families. Chris Riso, Assistant Superintendent of Government Services and Special Projects for the Diocese is urging parents of the necessity of meeting this deadline. Since April 1st falls during Easter Break, please submit requests no later than March 27th.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3/2 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- 3/5 - 1:00 Dismissal, Dress Down Day
- 3/9 - Mother/Son BINGO 6-8:00pm
- 3/16 - No School
- 3/19 - St. Joseph's Day Feast, 6:00
- 3/23 - Living Stations 1 & 7 pm, Church
- 3/29 - Holy Thursday, No School
- 3/30 - Good Friday, No School
- 4/1 - Easter Sunday
- 4/2 - 4/6 - No School

FUNDRAISERS BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

From Feb 12 – Feb 25, 2018, the Scrip rebate profit earned for the school was \$216.45.

Monthly Scrip	Monthly Scrip
<u>Sales Goal</u>	<u>Profit Goal</u>
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
February	February
<u>Sales-to-Date</u>	<u>Profit-to-Date</u>
\$8,802.00	\$483.08

From September 1, 2017 through February 25, 2018, the Scrip rebate profit earned by the school was \$9,183.47, which is excellent! I know that we can hit our goal every month if each family strives for a profit of \$250/year in Scrip rebates. Please contact the Scrip office at scrip@smeschool.com to find out how you can support this fundamental program.

CANDY BAR SALE:

ALL 931 boxes have left the building. So far we have collected \$41,000. We still have \$3,000 outstanding. **Please send your monies in.** Prize distributions will be sent home for all current accounts this week. A schedule of prize events will also come home at this time.

Mega Raffle:

Tickets Sold to date: **223**
Tickets Remaining: **427**
Did you get yours?!
The past two years we've sold out before the event!

FEBRUARY FREEZE - THANK YOU!

Dear SME Families and Staff,

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's February Freeze a success! I received many compliments from other school's coaches and visitors about how much they enjoyed the tournament and how welcomed they felt at our school. It was a fun weekend for our own teams and SME families. We also raised over \$3,000 for our school's athletic fund.

Thank you to everyone who signed up to volunteer to run the score clock, sell concessions, collect admissions, and clean up. Thank you to everyone who donated the amazing baskets for the basket raffle! Thank you to the 7th and 8th graders who helped with the 50/50 ticket sales, concessions, and halftime contests. Thank you to everyone who came to the games and supported the tournament.

I would like to especially thank these people who spent most or all of their Thursday evening, Friday evening and weekend volunteering at the February Freeze: Jeremy Kroll, Julie Wipperman, the DeMarzio family, the Kuhn family, the Wass family, Darcie Fudoli, Pete & Margaret Nawojski, Jeff Sell, and Mike & Christine Wolford.

Thank you to Ted Kuzniarek for donating the awesome trophies for our winning and runner-up teams.

Thank you to all of the SME coaches for your help sharing information about our tournament with other schools and your team members, and thank you for all the time you have dedicated this season to coaching our SME basketball players.

Finally, I would like to thank Mrs. Kwitowski, Mr. Sherman, Mrs. Jezuit and Mrs. Dutro for their help and support in preparing for this tournament!

All of our SME teams demonstrated good sportsmanship and tremendous talent at our tournament! Two SME teams won their divisions- JV Boys and 8th grade girls! The following SME students were named to the all-tournament teams: Michael S., Griffin S., Cameron C., Chloe S., and Aloise W. Margaret N. won the Varsity Girls' MVP award which included a \$100 Catholic Schools Scholarship. Congratulations to all of our student athletes!

Sincerely,
Julie Wolford



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FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

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

8TH GRADE FIELD TRIP

Our 8th grade students took a field trip to the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site in downtown Buffalo through their social studies class to correspond with their unit on the Progressive Era (1890-1920). The STREAM partner site is also a member of the National Park System, which President Roosevelt himself created during his presidency. Students experienced four interactive stations and were able to "stand where history happened" in the parlor of the Wilcox Mansion where President Roosevelt was inaugurated.



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

Spring sign up forms were DUE TODAY! However, because of how the winter break fell, your child may still sign up by this Friday, March 2nd! Your child will need to see the school nurse tomorrow to get a registration form and the form with payment must be sent to school on Friday.

Spring sports are as follows:



Boys volleyball- grades 5th-8th



Girls softball- grades 5th- 8th

Co-ed soccer- grades 1st-8th

Co-ed track- grades 3rd-8th



Your child may sign up for track AND another spring sport if they are interested. However, please note that there may be some conflicts playing 2 sports in 1 season.

Athletic fee is \$40.00 per athlete for volleyball, softball & soccer. The track fee is only \$20.00 per athlete.

Each athlete needs to have their OWN sign up form for the sport they wish to play, please do not add siblings onto 1 form. If your child is signing up for more than 1 sport, they need

separate sign up forms for each sport. However, 1 check may be written for the total for a student playing multiple sports. One check is per family is also ok if there are multiple family members playing. (Ex. if a family has 2 children playing soccer and 1 playing volleyball and 1 member doing track, 1 check would be made payable to: St. Mary's elementary school for a total of \$140.00.)

Boys volleyball and Girls softball JV/Varsity Roster Info: Varsity = Grades 7 & 8 JV = 5 & 6

Adjustments to the varsity roster would only happen should there be a shortage of 7/8 students to fill the team; in which case 6th graders may be included. In the event the varsity roster is filled appropriately, 6th graders are **not** placed on a varsity team. In the event that there is not enough interest to form a JV team, there is simply not a JV team this season.

As always, any questions/concerns can be directed to Mrs. Julie Wiperman, Athletic Director at athletics@smeschool.com.

7TH GRADE PROJECT

To bring the Constitution and Bill of Rights alive, 7th graders practiced their 1st Amendment right to petition their government in Social Studies class by choosing a topic close to their heart to write to a government official about.

The joint ELA-Social Studies project included learning how to write a formal business letter as well as researching different levels of government, digging for background information on their topics. We will patiently wait to see what responses we receive!



MISSION POSSIBLE

Round 2 of Mission Possible has begun and will run through April 15th.

**OUR GOAL IS TO DONATE 700
CANS/BOXES OF FOOD.**

To win, we need to surpass our goal. During Round 1, we surpassed our goal by over 400%!

Here are our goals for this period **per grade**:

PREK -1st grade = 50 cans

2nd grade- 6th grade = 60 cans

7th & 8th grades = 150 cans

Grand total = 700 cans

We are blessed by and thankful for your generosity and your willingness to serve others. The 8th grade Social Justice class will collect and count the cans each Friday throughout the challenge period. We will keep you updated in the newsnotes as to how we are doing.

Questions can be directed to Mrs. Hoag at hoagb@smeschool.com. Our 8th grade Social Justice Class is helping to lead this endeavor and I am very proud of their enthusiasm and participation.

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



MEGA RAFFLE

The Mega Raffle fundraiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. So far, **74** of the tickets have been sold or purchased by school families – thank you for your support!! 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.

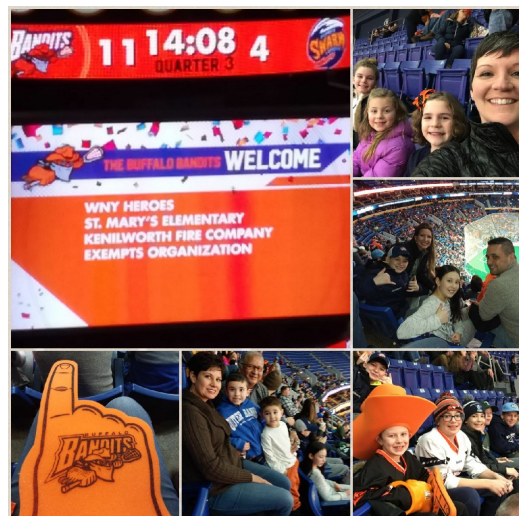
Prize winners will be announced at
The live drawing on Friday, June 1st
at 6:30 in the Parish Center.



If you are interested in joining our committee, or helping out the night of the event, please contact Mary Kate DeMarizo at megaffle@smeschool.com or 510-1409.

HSA

Thank You to everyone that supported
SME 's Bandits Fundraiser Night!



READY SET READ

Third time is the charm!

Please join us on Thursday, March 15th for our Ready SET Read event.

An updated registration form is included in your blue folder today!



STAY IN THE KNOW

Save the Date: 3/9 Mother Son
BINGO, 5:45-8:00 pm

Save the Date: 3/19 St. Joseph's
Table, 6:00

Save the Date: 3/22 Winter Sports
Banquet, 6-9:00 pm

Save the Date: 4/9 Lenten Collec-
tion Boxes Due

Save the Date: 4/29 Benefit for the
Lipiarz Family @ SMHS

Mother & Son



Night!!!



If Mom cannot come, please invite Grandma, Aunt or older Sister as your guest!

Friday, March 9th 2018

5:45 check-in BINGO 6-8pm School Gym

\$10.00 per person



**Payment due by:
Monday, March 5th
please return to
Mrs. Kwitowski in an
envelope with your
child's name on it.**

PRIZES

PIZZA & SNACKS

Refreshments

Photo Booth to capture the moment with Mom & Son! Each Duo (Mother/Son) will receive 2 photo strips! Props available!(or bring your own)

Mother & Son BINGO Night!!!

Names of Attendees: _____ & _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please return this form in an envelope with cash or check (made out to SME) to Mrs. Kwitowski no later than March 5thth. Thank you!

We are still in need of at least **6 Dads** to help out that night at the event and clean-up. We could use 3 Moms to help set-up. If you can help, please fill out the information below. Set-up will start at 4:00 and clean-up right after BINGO.

I _____ am able to help with _____ at Bingo Night. _____ (phone#)

SME's School Effectiveness Team tries again...

Battle of the Books & Ready SET Read Night 3.0!

Thursday, March 15, 2018 6:00-8:00 pm

If you have already signed up for Ready SET Read or Battle of the Books and are available to join us on the new date, you are all set and we will see you on March 15. If you were not registered for the event previously, but would like to join us on March 15, please read below for how to register. If you previously signed up, but are unable to attend on this new date, please complete and return the bottom of this form for a refund.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS- The 4th & 5th grade Battle will be held in the school cafeteria. There will be cash prizes for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place team in each division. There will also be a "Team Spirit" award 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. Please complete and return the form below and send in registration fees.

READY SET READ is a fun event for students in grades pre-K 3 through grade 3 and their families. 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.

*****SABRES TICKETS RAFFLE WILL BE HELD AT THIS EVENT*****

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 March 12.

We are asking that each family bring the following items to the event:

Pre-K, Kindergarten- a side dish (salad, fruit, chips, veggies)

Grades 3-5- a dessert

Grades 1 & 2 - 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:
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_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
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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: _____

_____ We are unable to attend on the new date. Please send home a refund with my child

Child's name _____ Homeroom teacher's name _____

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Faith Focus

This week's family connection activity is based on the Gospel reading for *Sunday March 4th*.

Peace,
Mrs. Hoag

Gospel Reading

John 2:13-25

Jesus drives out the moneychangers from the Temple and says that he will destroy the temple and raise it up again.

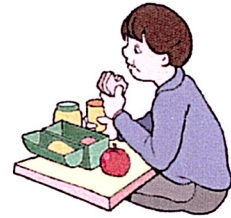
Family Connection

**From Loyola Press*

Today's Gospel invites us to reflect upon our worship of God. For Jesus and his Jewish contemporaries, the Temple was an important, holy place where they gathered to worship God. The Christian understanding of worship was transformed in light of Jesus' Resurrection. In the Christian understanding, God is worshiped in a person, the person of Jesus Christ. As we read in today's Gospel, Jesus is himself the Temple that will be destroyed, but in three days God will raise him up again.

As you gather as a family, talk about places and times when you have experienced God's presence. After his Resurrection, Jesus' disciples understood that Jesus was present with them as they gathered to pray and especially when they gathered to share a meal. **Read together today's Gospel, John 2:13-25.** Jesus teaches us in today's Gospel that he is God's presence with us. Thank God for Jesus' presence with us, especially in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

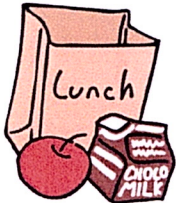
The Cafeteria Needs You!



- ✓ Are you looking for ways to get involved with the school?
- ✓ Does your schedule leave you with available time in the mid-day and you're wondering what to do?

The cafeteria is in need of a parent (or grandparent) who would like to be a lunch monitor 2 days per week. The hours are 10:30-1:00 on Thursdays and 11:00-1:15 on Fridays.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Mary Kate DeMarzio at lunchmonitor@smeschool.com.



Thank you in advance for your help & support of all things SME!

Mary Kate DeMarzio
Cafeteria Supervisor

Please note that you must have and maintain active Virtus Certification to be allowed to work with the children in any way in the school. Status can be verified by contacting Mrs. Kuhn in the main office.

KK

T O W N O F L A N C A S T E R

Youth Bureau

February 6, 2018

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

Dear St. Mary's Elementary School Students and Staff,

On behalf of the Lancaster Youth Bureau, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of hats, gloves, and socks that you collected through your comfort tree! The boxes and bags of winter-gear will be perfect for our families throughout this cold season.

Your donation comes at a perfect time, as the families that we serve are now outgrowing their current hats, gloves, and socks. Many times at this point of the year, we run low on winter items. But with your generous donation, we can keep our clothing closet stocked throughout the last of the winter months!

Thank you again for your wonderful donation. You have made many Lancaster and Depew families very happy and warm!

Sincerely,



Rebecca Sivecz
Community and School Psychologist
Lancaster Youth Bureau