

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 21 MARCH 14, 2018

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

This Thursday evening, March 15th will be our rescheduled Ready Set Read and Battle of the Books event. I am looking forward to all of the fun events that are planned and the Battle of the Books! I hope to see many of our families there. Please remember that school will not be in session on Friday, March 16th. Our teachers will be having a professional development day. Enjoy the long weekend!

May God give you...
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem life sends you,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer to each prayer.
— Irish Blessing

God's Peace and Love, Mrs. Kwitowski



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

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:

- 3/15 - Dress Down Day
\$1 - Wear Green
- 3/16 - No School
- 3/19 - St. Joseph's Day Feast, 6:00
- 3/23 - Living Stations
1 & 7 pm, Church
- 3/25 - Pancake Breakfast
8:30-12:00 Parish Center
- 3/29 - Holy Thursday,
No School
- 3/30 - Good Friday,
No School
- 4/1 - Easter Sunday
- 4/2 - 4/6 - No School
- 4/9 - School Resumes
- 4/11 - 4/13- NYS Testing ELA Gr. 4 & 8



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRINCIPAL'S DESK	1
18-19 REGISTRATION INFORMATION	1
BY THE NUMBERS	1
TAX ID NUMBER	1
HSA	1
BISON FUND	2
MISSION POSSIBLE	2
MEGA RAFFLE	2
SPORTS REPORT	2
8TH GRADE	2
STAY IN THE KNOW	2
WANTED!	2
MOTHER/SON BINGO	2
READY SET READ	2

FUNDRAISERS BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

From Mar 5 – Mar 11, 2018, the Scrip rebate profit earned for the school was \$142.17.

Monthly Scrip Sales Goal	Monthly Scrip Profit Goal
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
March Sales-to-Date	March Profit-to-Date
\$4,514.00	\$226.81

Easter is almost here and we have gift cards in stock for all of your needs: Tops & Federal Meats for your Easter feast; Fowler's & Dark Forest Chocolate Makers to help fill your baskets and Kohl's & Target to help you look your best!

CANDY BAR SALE:

We sold 931 boxes of Chocolate...
553 Gertrude Hawk
221 Niagara Chocolates
157 Fowlers Chocolates

To date we have collected \$45,600

We still have \$780 OUTSTANDING
Notes to past due accounts have gone home via paper note & email. Our sale has ended. Please remit your payment today!

Mega Raffle:

Tickets Sold to date: 254

Tickets Remaining: 396

Did you get yours?!

The past two years we've sold out before the event!

TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Per the directive of the Diocesan auditors, we are no longer able to supply families with our Tax Identification Number. The recommendation for any family requesting this information is to indicate "Religious Exemption" in the area where the Tax Identification Number would be placed. The practice of sharing this information has ended since 2017 and we have not had any issues with regards to this change in procedure. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy DiBerardino: Administrative Assistant (ndiberardino@buffalodiocese.org 716-847-5504).

HSA



Our HSA Team invites you to our annual St. Joseph's Day Table on Monday, March 19th at 6:00 in the Parish Center.

This long standing tradition at St. Mary's follows the traditional meatless feast celebrating St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We hope to see you there!

Our Gertrude Hawk Delivery is Today, from 3-6:00 pm in the Parish Center.

We will make every attempt to have your items available at dismissal, but we are at the mercy of the UPS delivery.



Please join us at our next Pancake Breakfast, on March 23rd between 8:30-12:00 in the Parish Center. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family of four or more!





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..."

SPORTS REPORT



The Winter sports banquet is Thursday, March 22nd from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and is \$10.00/family. All RSVP's for the banquet are due tomorrow. Please make checks payable to St. Mary's Elementary. Please note that this banquet is for the player and their immediate family. All basketball players will receive a medal for their participation in basketball this season! The banquet is a nice evening honoring our student athletes and also thanking our amazing coaches at SME!

If you took any pictures during the February Freeze Tournament, please send a copy to Amanda Kuhn at secretary@smeschool.com.

Spring sport teams are finalized and coaches will be in contact with you at their earliest convenience.

On Wednesday, March 21st Inter-state photography will be taking team photos for the yearbook. The sport jersey will be distributed to all athletes prior to their photo being taken.

The following photos will be taken:

Girls softball- *please bring your gray softball pants and sneakers.*

Boys volleyball- *please bring blue shorts and sneakers.*

Co-ed soccer teams (1st-8th)- *please bring blue shorts and sneakers.*

Co-ed track teams- (3rd-8th)- *please bring blue shorts and sneakers.*

Your child will come home with their jersey. Please keep their jersey in a safe place

READY SET READ

Ready SET Read & Battle of the Books will take place this Thursday, March 15 from 6:00-8:00.

Dinner will be served in the gym at 6pm.

Ready SET Read for grades pre-k through 3 will start at 6:30 in the parish center.

The Battle of the Books competition for 4th & 5th graders will start at 6:30 in the gym.

Walk-ins are welcome for Ready SET Read. The cost at the door is \$5 per child & \$10 per family for pizza and subs.

Please remember your dish or beverage to share.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone this Thursday!



Congratulations to our JV Boys team who defeated Nativity of O.P. on Saturday 42-36 for the Father Schaus Championship! The boys also won 1st place in our February Freeze Tournament!



MEGA RAFFLE

The Mega Raffle fundraiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. So far, **86** 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 DeMarzio at megaraffle@smeschool.com or 510-1409.

BISON FUND

Giving Parents a Choice.
Giving Children a Chance.

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.



8TH GRADE FUNDRAISER

Our 8th Grade Class of 2018 is holding a Chiavetta's dinner on Friday April 13th from 3:00-7:00 here at school.

Tickets are available for \$10 pre-sale or \$12 day of. To purchase tickets please email Mrs. Kasinski at jbkasinski@cavtel.net or Mrs. Morrella.

As part of their 8th grade service project, they have also integrated a donation to the Buffalo City Mission.

Want to pay it forward and help those in our community? Buy one for you and one for donation!

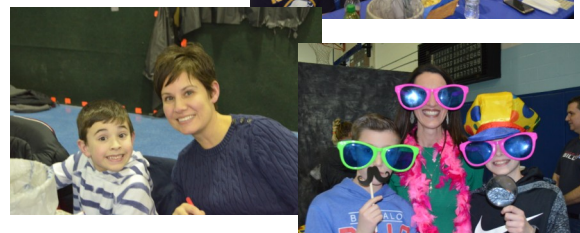
Want to support but can't commit to picking your dinner up that night? You can choose to have it donated!

That evening a volunteer will load up the hot meals and drive them to the Mission to be served for dinner.

Thank you for your support of our graduating class!

MOTHER/SON BINGO

Mother/Son BINGO night was a so much FUN!!! Great prizes, yummy food and photos with your favorite guy(s)!! Thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed some fun. We would also like to Thank all our Dad's and Teachers who stayed to help with Bingo, we truly appreciate your time and dedication to SME!!!



CANDY BAR SALE

The Chocolate Candy Bar sale has been a sweet tradition here at SME for years. The easy sell and the instant gratification of eating chocolate, are what makes this the easiest major fundraiser at SME.

It is finally time to pay out prizes to all of the hard working families who put so much time and effort into selling \$1 chocolate candy bars. Whether they sold door to door in their neighborhoods, asked friends and family to support SME, sold at their place of business, sold at bowling alleys, Bills games, or asked neighborhood business to put a box on their counter, all efforts should be commended, and are greatly appreciated!

Today, students with closed accounts received coupons for dress down days, cafeteria snacks & lunches,

homework passes, Karaoke Party & Pajama Day!

The ultimate rewards are still in the works but we will advise as the dates are arranged.

On 1/31 55 eligible students participated in our Tape the Teacher. Today, 6 eligible students & 6 friends will enjoy a snow day party at SME!

Top Sellers:

Nicole & Jocelyn - Gr. 8... 195 boxes
Jacob Setter - Gr. 1... 36 boxes
Joseph - Gr. 8 & Molly - Gr. 7 ... 30 boxes
Lainie - Gr. 8 & Evan - Gr 5 ...20 boxes
Brayden - Gr 1... 20 boxes
Thomas - Gr. PreK 3...18
Claire - Gr. 8 & Charles - Gr. 4... 15 boxes
Joshua - Gr. 5...15 boxes

STAY IN THE KNOW

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 Collection Boxes Due

Save the Date: 4/15 Mission Possible Round 2 Ends

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



CHIAVETTA'S CHICKEN DINNER

TO BENEFIT ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GRADUATING 8TH GRADE CLASS OF 2018

Friday April 13
3:00 - 7:00

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

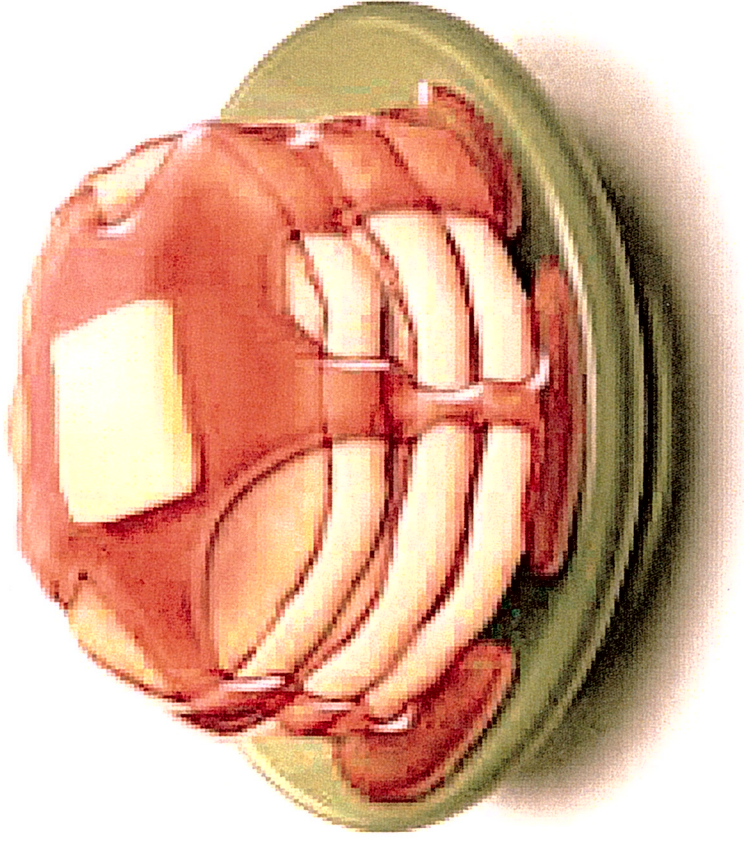
\$10.00 presale through April 1
\$12.00 day of

Each includes ½ Chicken, two sides & roll with butter

Can pick up day of OR choose to donate the dinner to the
Buffalo City Mission to be served that night



SME's PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Hosted by:
SME's HSA Team

Sunday, March 25, 2018

Parish Center

2 St Mary's Hill

Lancaster, NY 14086

(716) 683-2112

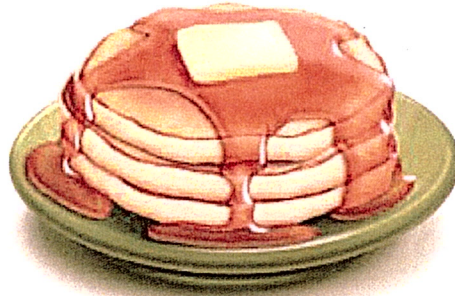
8:30am-12:00pm

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

ALL ARE WELCOME

(Parish Members, SME Family and Friends!!!)

St. Mary's Elementary
Pancake Breakfast
HSA Fundraiser



Sunday, March 25, 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!!!

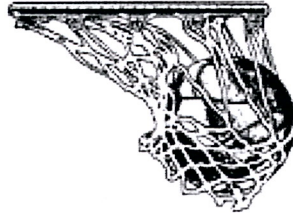
Parents and students please complete & return this portion if
you would like to help volunteer at this event Attn: HSA

Name _____

Number _____

Email _____

Winter Sports Banquet
Thursday, March 22, 2017
Parish Center 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Girl's and Boy's Basketball Teams



We are asking the following teams to kindly bring:

Girl's Basketball: 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th – Desserts
Girl's Basketball: 7th & 8th - three 2-liters of *cold* pop

Boy's Basketball: 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th - Salads/Side Dishes (hot & cold)
Boy's Basketball: 7th - fruit
Boy's Basketball: 8th – case of water

*****Lifetouch will be taking photos for SME yearbook*****

Athletes please wear your uniform to the banquet. Uniforms will be collected by your coach that evening.

Please return bottom of form

Winter Sports Banquet
Thursday, March 22, 2017
Parish Center 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Family Name: _____

Player Name(s): _____

Number Attending: _____

Due to space restrictions, this banquet is limited to player and immediate family members.

**Please send in this form along with \$10 per family to office,
Attention: Julie Wipperman (due 3/15/2017).**

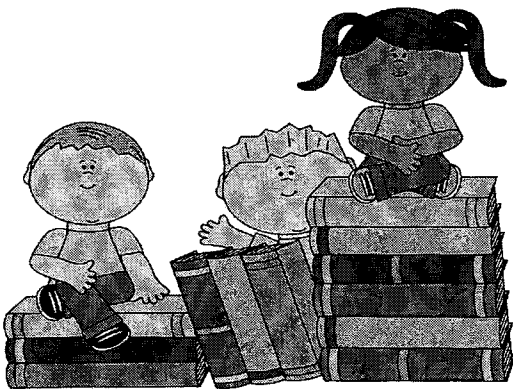
JK

The Book Swap

The book swap is back! A few times throughout the year, Mrs. Wojcik and Mrs. Gasiacki will host a book swap for students in **grades K-5**. Students can bring gently used books from home they are finished with to "swap" for new books. We hope to encourage reading at home, without costing families any money!

How it works:

- This will be a two day process. Day 1: students bring in their books and get a ticket for each book they turn in. Day 2: students exchange each ticket for one book.



Books must be grade level appropriate!

K-1: books with pictures & simple words

2-5: at least one book must be a grade appropriate chapter book

- Notifications of the dates will be posted in the newsletter.
- Grades 2+ will have to show responsibility by keeping track of their tickets. We will track grades K and 1.
- Students may "swap" up to 3 books. Books need to be "like new" condition, but not brand new. Books with torn or missing pages will not be accepted.
- We kindly ask parents not to come to help your children pick out books, as we want them to make their own choices (we will monitor this, of course ☺).

Our book swap will start on **Thursday, March 22nd**.

We hope you will encourage your students to participate!

If you have any questions, please email us at: wojcikk@smeschool.com or gasiackih@smeschool.com

Mrs. Wojcik & Mrs. Gasiacki

Saint Joseph's Day Table



All are welcome....Parish Members, SME Family and friends

Monday March 19, 2018 at 6pm in the Parish center

SME HSA's Team is Hosting the Saint Joseph's Day Table.
We ask that you please bring a meatless dish to share.

Hope to see you there!



Faith Focus

This week's family connection activity is based on the Gospel reading for **Sunday March 18th**.

Peace,
Mrs. Hoag

Gospel Reading

John 12: 20-33

Jesus teaches his disciples about the way in which he will be glorified by God, and a voice from heaven is heard to affirm this teaching.

Family Connection

**From Loyola Press*

Family life is often a balancing act in which we prioritize and attend to a variety of competing needs. We learn the value of putting others' needs ahead of our own. In family life we also learn that when we make personal sacrifices to serve others, we gain so much more than we may have lost.

As you gather as a family, talk about how important it is to your family life to gladly serve one another. Ask each person to consider the last time that another family member asked for help. What was your response? Did you cheerfully try to honor the request, or did you ask "Why me?" Read today's Gospel, John 12:20-33. **How do you think Jesus would want us to respond when someone in our family asks for help?** Invite each family member to make a commitment for the next week to try to respond cheerfully to requests for help. Pray together, asking God's help with this commitment. Pray the Prayer of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace, that is enough for me. Amen.