

# NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 26      APRIL 25, 2018

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

Well, it looks like Spring may actually be trying to arrive. Spring is always a busy time at SME. We have many exciting events coming up. Our first event will be on Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be receiving their ribbons at our Hope Ribbon Mass. We are all excited for them!

In the upcoming weeks, we will have the Penny Fair, Diocesan Track Meet, Diocesan Art show and before we know it, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be going on their class trip. Please watch the calendar for the days and times of these events. As always, if you have any questions regarding an event, do not hesitate to call the school.

Our classes for next year are filling up. If you have not re-registered yet, please be sure to get your registration packet in.

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!

## TUITION OFFICE

At this time, all Pre-K and K-8 tuition accounts should be paid in full. Final payments were due by April 15 as indicated on your signed Tuition Contract and recent statement. Unless alternate payment arrangements are in place with the Tuition Office, you will be receiving a copy of the payment policy and enforcement will take place May 25 if any account is in arrears at that time. Please contact Nancy Jezuit, Director of Student Affairs in the Tuition Office @ 683-2112 x121 or jezuitn@smeschool.com as soon as possible if you have concerns or questions regarding your tuition account. Thank you.

## FUNDRAISERS BY THE NUMBERS

### SCRIP:

From April 16 – April 22, 2018, the Scrip rebate profit earned for the school was \$84.87.

Monthly Scrip Sales Goal	Monthly Scrip Profit Goal
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
April Sales-to-Date	April Profit-to-Date
\$5,185.00	\$264.28



### Mega Raffle:

Tickets Sold to date: **358**  
Tickets Remaining: **292**  
*Did you get yours?!*

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

**We are currently 157 tickets behind in sales from last year.** For this fundraiser to be successful in keeping our tuition down, we need **ALL** families to help sell tickets. Please feel free to get creative with Social Media (posting this great opportunity to Facebook feeds, etc) as well as encouraging multiple people to chip in on one ticket!

## STREAM

Spring is here and so is our STREAM Flower Sale! The sale will run from April 16 - April 27th. Pick up will be on May 9 from 2:30 - 6:00.

Our STREAM Walk-a-thon is right around the corner on Monday, May 7th. We ask that the students wear their SME gym attire. Permission/Pledge forms are going home today!

With just \$80 in flower sales & \$40 in donations for the walk per student we are sure to reach our \$8,000 goal!

## PENNY FAIR

The Penny Fair, *SME’s longest standing tradition*, will be here before we know it! Our students will enjoy a gym full of carnival style games & activities for just \$0.25 a game! (‘Quarter Fair’ just doesn’t have the same ring to its name!) Children will have the opportunity to play games for prizes, and even flowers or a cake just in time for Mother’s Day!

We are in need of volunteers to help during the course of our fair to ensure a smooth day for all! This includes setting up the fair on Thursday evening & during the day on Friday. Please see the flyer in your folder today for more information on how to help out!

We are also in need of cakes for our Cake Walk (think musical chairs, but you win cake instead)! Donations of cakes & baked goods can be dropped off Thursday evening or by 8:00 am Friday.

Tickets are still available for the Catholic Schools Night at the Ball Game on Friday, May 18th! While you’re there, cheer extra loud as our very own Andrew from Mrs. Brinkworth’s 4th grade class challenges Buster Bison in a race around the bases! Tickets are available at: groupmatics.events/s/other/Bisonscatholic



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- *4/25 - Parent Night / Open House 6-8:00pm Art Show, Book Fair, HSA Meeting*
- *4/27 - Christian Witness Mass (April), 8:30am*
- *5/1 - 5/3 - NYS Testing, Math Gr 4 & 8*
- *5/4 - 8th Gr. Hope Ribbon Mass & Reception*
- *5/7 - 1:00 Dismissal, STREAM Walk-a-Thon, SME Gym Attire*
- *5/10 - Ascension Thursday Mass, 8:30*
- *5/11 - Penny Fair, No School Mass*
- *5/18 - May Crowning Mass, 8:30*
- *5/25-5/28 - No School*
- *5/30 - NYS Science Performance Testing, Gr 4&8*

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LIVING..."

## SPORTS REPORT

The Track team is doing a great job and I thank all of the coaches for their time and dedication! Parents, please remember to join Team Snap and also sign up to volunteer at 1 track meet! The Track team will have their 1st Track meet on Sat. April 28th at 4:00 @ St. Francis High School.

The softball team will have their 1st softball game this Friday, April 27th at 3:30 @ Veteran's Stadium! Parents please remember to log in and join Team snap soon!

The Parochial soccer game schedule has NOT been released yet, thank you for your patience! Coaches will inform you of your 1st game as soon as they receive the schedule. (Access to the website is www.parochalkickers.org - You may check it out at any point to see if schedule is there!)

## BISON FUND



Giving Parents a Choice.  
Giving Children a Chance.

BISON held the lottery drawing last month and notified results to families via email. Families selected to receive funding were emailed a link to complete a full application. The deadline to complete the full application is April 30, 2018. The deadline for families to renew their scholarships was April 13, 2018. Families can still submit a pre-application on our website and be placed on the BISON Fund waiting list.

Award letters will be sent to all families at the beginning of May. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cindy McDonald at 716-854-0869

## MEGA RAFFLE

The Mega Raffle fundraiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families.

So far, **128** of the tickets have been sold or purchased by **55** of our school families and we appreciate your support! If you are unsure as to how many tickets you've sold please contact Mary Kate! Every ticket sold gets us closer to our goal and makes sure we have a successful drive! 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!



Prize winners announced live  
on Friday, June 1st  
at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center.

If you are interested in helping out please contact Mary Kate DeMarzio at  
megaraffle@smeschool.com or 510-1409.

## LUNCH NEWS

Now that the weather is getting warmer, we will be able to head outside for recess after lunch!! The students need your help though, as I am unable to take them out unless I have two volunteers present. We are most in need of volunteers Mondays-Thursdays and especially during the 3rd lunch period from 12:14-12:51. I ask that you please refrain from parking in the section of the lot closest to the grass/hill, as this is our play area. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation! Please contact me at lunchmonitor@smeschool.com or 510-1409 if you're available to sign up.



## SPRING CONCERT

We will have a change in the date and format of our Spring Concert and Band Concert. In the past, these two events were held on separate days, however, this year, we will be combining them into one large, whole-school musical performance!

Our concert will be on Wednesday, June 6th at 9:00am in the school gym. We will have performances by our SME School Band, many of our beginner instrumental students, and all music classes from PK-4 to Grade 8. We will feature instrumental performances, singing, 3rd grade recorders, classroom percussion instruments, and possibly some sign language, movements with songs, games, and basically a little bit of everything we do in music class during the year.

We hope to see you there!!



## SCRIP

From September 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018, the Scrip rebate profit earned by the school was \$10,121.30. **We have begun to fall short of our monthly goal, but I know we can hit it in future months if each family strives for a profit of \$250/year in Scrip rebates.** Please take into consideration the places that you normally shop and dine, including purchasing your gasoline at Tops (gift cards accepted at pump) or paying your Kohl's charge card bills using SCRIP gift cards. Together, we can make the SCRIP program a success to our school, our Parish and for our children! Please contact the Scrip office at scrip@smeschool.com to find out how you can support this fundamental program.

Toys R Us has officially filed to liquidate and close all US stores. Gift cards are no longer able to be redeemed. **We cannot accept returns.**

We will have a limited number of special low denomination gift cards available to order through May 25<sup>th</sup>, or while supplies last. These are perfect for teacher gifts and grad parties! The gifts cards available are: Amazon.com \$10, Applebee's \$10, Barnes & Noble \$5, CVS \$5, Olive Garden \$10, Home Depot \$10, IHOP \$10, Meijer \$10, Outback \$10, Panera \$5, Red Lobster \$10, Regal \$10, Safeway \$10, Starbucks \$5, Target \$10, Wal-Mart \$10.

*Look how easy it is to help us reach our goal:*

Vendor	Value	Profit %	# Purchased	\$ Purchased	Rebate Earned
Tops	\$100	5%	4	\$400	\$20
Kohl's	\$100	5%	1	\$100	\$5
Tim Horton's	\$10	5%	2	\$20	\$1
<b>Monthly total</b>				<b>\$520</b>	<b>\$26</b>
<b>Annual total</b>				<b>\$6,240</b>	<b>\$312</b>

## CHOCOLATE SALE

Last Friday, 8 students attended the Chocolate Candy Bar Sale "Glow Party". The event started out with hand decorating with glow paint, then included glow Twister, glow Ping Pong, and glow art. Students also had time for glow Tic Tac Toe, glow jump rope, and had a glow dance off! Students left the glow party with smiles, bracelets, necklaces and beach ball all aglow. Thank You to our volunteers for making the Glow Party such a success.



43 students received coupons for a Karaoke Party based on the number of chocolate candy bars sold. Those students are able to sign up alone or with a maximum of four friends during lunch for a day to sing a song after morning announcements. Signups will close at the end of the month!

Students should bring the music for their song to the office for approval prior to rehearsing. If your song is not approved, you will need to choose a different song.

Thank you very much for all of your support.  
*The Chocolate Candy Bar Team*

## STAY IN THE KNOW

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

**Save the Date:** 5/4 8th Grade Hope Ribbon Ceremony

**Save the Date:** 5/11 Penny Fair

**Save the Date:** 6/6 School Spring Concert, Pre-k - Gr. 8, 9:00 am

**Save the Date:** 6/7 Pre-K 3 Last Day

**Save the Date:** 6/8 Pre-K 4 Graduation



# Penny Fair Cake Walk

**Event Date: 5/11/2018**

We are in need of baked good donations for the  
Penny Fair Cake Walk!  
Cakes, Cookies, Brownies – we'll take them all!



Not a baker????

Small cakes from Wegmans/Tops are always welcome  
& Rice Krispie Treats create a great variety!



The Cake Walk is a Penny Fair tradition at SME and one of the kids favorites!  
Its success depends on the donations received. Please be as generous as you can!


*Please bake & send your cakes in disposable cake pans.*

Items can be brought to school by 8am on 5/11/18 or dropped off in the gym on  
the evening of 5/10/18.



## Penny Fair 2018

Hello Parents/Guardians,

SME's  Fair is coming up quick on May 11, 2018 and we are still in need of 2 Chairmen as well as Volunteers!

This is St. Mary's Elementary longest running event and we are only able to continue this wonderful tradition with your help!!!

If you are interested in helping out in anyway, please contact Annelis Staats-Szuder SME's HSA Team Member immediately at:  
amsszuder@gmail.com / text (716) 510-0571 or, by returning the bottom slip.

Sincerely,

SME's HSA Team

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## Penny Fair 2018

- ☐ Yes - I am interested in continuing the tradition as part of the chairman team!
- ☐ Yes - I am available to help on Penny Fair Day!
- ☐ Yes - I am able to help set up on Thursday, May 10th

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Texting: Yes / No

JK

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*"...visible examples of gospel living"*

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April 25, 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. That being said, we are again reaching out to ask for donations for the baskets for this year's Mega Raffle on June 1, 2018.

Attached, is a list of items that we are still in need of. If you are able to donate an item, please send your donation in with your student, **Attention: Mega Raffle**. If you prefer, you may make a monetary donation in lieu of an item.

*We would like all items donated by **May 18<sup>th</sup>** so that we have time to put the baskets together.*

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!

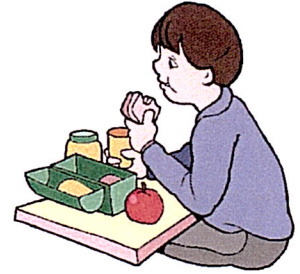
Steve & Mary Kate DeMarzio  
Mega Raffle Chair Couple

KK

### Themes (some items are listed for ideas)

- Beach/Summer theme:** towels, sunscreen, goggles, books, sunglasses, folding/lounge chair, sun, umbrella, cooler, puzzle books, water bottles
- Pasta theme:** boxes of pasta, colander, serving bowl, cheese shaker, wine glasses, salad bowl, salad tongs
- Car detailing:** bucket, soap, brush, tire/wheel cleaner, windshield cleaner, interior cleaner, towels, Delta Sonic GC (*you can buy from Scrip!*)
- Ice Cream theme:** ice cream maker, sprinkles, hot fudge, cones, gift cards to local places (*you can buy from Scrip!*)
- Baking theme:** cookie sheet, rolling pin, muffin pan, pie pan, mixing bowls, mixer, utensils

# The Cafeteria Needs You!



- ✓ Are you looking for ways to get involved with the school?
- ✓ Do you want an extra chance to see your child or grandchild's smiling face?
- ✓ 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 parent and/or grandparent volunteers to assist with monitoring during each lunch period. We ask that you arrive by 10:45 Monday-Thursday, and stay through our last lunch period which ends at 1:00. Friday's arrival time is 11:00 due to the children attending Mass in the morning, but lunch still ends at 1:00.

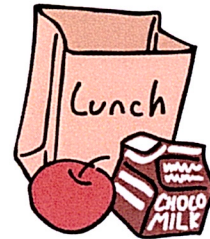
Volunteering couldn't be easier! As a volunteer lunch monitor, you will simply need to walk around the lunch room and assist the children as needed (opening milk cartons, go-gurts, etc) as well as making sure that they are safe (no running, sharing food, etc.).

In the warmer months the children love to be outside! We need at least 2-3 volunteers to ensure the safety of the children as they run around in the fresh air. During the colder months, we will remain inside and use the Gym and/or Parish Center when they are available. Again, having 2-3 volunteers, even while inside, is a necessary precaution to ensure safety.

If you are able to help out, please complete and return the bottom portion of this letter to the attention of Mary Kate DeMarzio. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 510-1409 or [lunchmonitor@smeschool.com](mailto:lunchmonitor@smeschool.com).

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

Mary Kate DeMarzio – Cafeteria Supervisor



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Day & Dates I can help: \_\_\_\_\_

*Volunteer signups can be weekly (i.e. every Tuesday) or monthly (i.e. every third Thursday)*

Do you have Virtus Certification?                      Yes      or      No

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

*KK*





The Scrip team is looking for volunteers to sell gift cards for 2-3 hours per day.

Shifts are available:

- Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings from 8:00-10:00
  - One Saturday a month from 9:00-11:00
  - After Masses on the weekends (10-20 mins)

*The commitment can be as simple as one day a month, or as many days as you like!*

If you are interested in learning more, please contact the Scrip Team at [scrip@smeschool.com](mailto:scrip@smeschool.com)





### **Faith Focus**

This week's family connection activity is based on the Gospel reading for  
**Sunday, April 29th.**

Peace,  
Mrs. Hoag

### **Gospel Reading**

**John 15:1-8**

*Jesus teaches that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches.*

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### **Family Connection**

*\*From Loyola Press*

The goal of our life of prayer is to increase our awareness that Jesus lives with us always. Prayer is more than a dialogue with God; prayer is a lifting of our minds and hearts to God so that God might dwell and act within us and through us. The pinnacle of our life of prayer is our communion with Jesus in the Eucharist. Through this sacrament, we receive Jesus himself, and he remains with us. Our life of prayer and our union with Jesus will lead us to fruitful service to others.

Place a plant in your gathering space. Invite everyone to look at the plant, noting the connection between the plant and its leaves. Talk about the integral connection between all the parts of a healthy plant. Introduce today's Gospel by saying that Jesus talked about his relationship to his disciples using this metaphor. Read today's Gospel, John 15:1-8. Talk about the ways in which we are invited to relate to Jesus as his disciples today—prayer, Scripture, the Eucharist, and so on. When we do these things, Jesus promises to remain with us and to lead us to serve others well. Pray together that we will continue to be attentive and open to Jesus as he works in our lives today.

**Pray together the Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love.**

**Act of Faith** O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches, because you have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. Amen.

**Act of Hope** O my God, relying on your infinite mercy and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

**Act of Love** O my God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul, because you are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured. Amen.