

# NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1     SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

## FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

Wow! Can you believe that we have begun another school year? It feels like I was just writing to have a great summer. We had a busy summer here at SME. The maintenance crew did a fabulous job with cleaning and sprucing up the school to get it ready for the new school year. In the office, we also worked on getting things ready for the new school year, including putting together some fun events for the upcoming year. Be sure to check out the calendar and school website to stay up to date as to all of the happenings.

On Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, we will have student picture day.

I am looking forward to an exciting and rewarding school year for all!!

Almighty God

We give you our school.

We give you all the teachers and staff who work here,

We give you all the children who study here.

We pray our school would be a place of great discovery, adventure and creativity.

May it be a place where we love to learn and where everyone is respected and all are deeply valued.

We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*(A modern prayer from www.lords-prayer-words.com)*

God's Peace and Love,

Mrs. Kwitowski



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 9/17 - Picture Day, Pre-K (M,W,F) & Gr. K-8
- 9/18 - Picture Day, Pre-K
- 9/21 - Harvest Homecoming & Meet the Teacher Night, 5-8 pm
- 9/28 - NO SCHOOL
- 9/28 - Fall Fest on the Hill, 6:00-11:00 pm
- 10/1 - **1:00 Dismissal**, SME Attire, Catholic Schools Marathon 9am.
- 10/5 - **15 min. Early Release Drill**, Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am, Church



## SCRIP

The first of our monthly Saturday Scrip Sales will be this Saturday, September 15th from 9-11:00am in the Scrip Office!

Get ready to do your happy dance! Thank-Scrip-ing Day is coming on Monday, September 17, bringing BIG bonus rebates on eGift cards and reloads to your physical gift cards. Participating partners and bonus rebates will be announced at 12:00 a.m. EST on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

To earn big, create an account on ShopWithScrip.com or MyScrip Wallet.com if you don't have one yet. The enrollment code is with the Scrip information that came home in the Blue Folder today. Be sure to enroll in online payments (PrestoPay) to receive your eGift cards and reloads to your physical gift cards faster.

\*You can also pay by check when you place your order within 24 hours of the promotion. You will receive your eGift cards and reloads to your physical cards when the order is released by the Scrip coordinator. Don't forget that there is a locked box in the church foyer and outside the Scrip office so that you can drop off orders whenever it is convenient for you!

\*If you ordered ReloadNow, funds will be added to your card immediately. Orders for Reload placed before 3:30 p.m. EST will be loaded overnight. The Thank-Scrip-ing Day promotion will run from 12:00 a.m. EST – 11:59 p.p. PST on Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**The Scrip Team is looking for additional volunteers to sell gift cards weekday mornings from 8:00-10:00, after weekend Masses and one Saturday a month. If you are interested in joining our team, please email us at scrip@smeschool.com.**

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

## FALL FEST ON THE HILL

Come one come all to our  
1st Annual Fall Fest on the Hill!

This exciting new fundraiser is taking what we love most from Autumn Gold (the \$13,500 in prizes!!) and putting a great new spin on it!

Come on out Friday, September 28th as we join in food, fun & fellowship on the grounds of SME! We will be featuring live music by Rough Stock from 8:00-11:00 in the courtyard!

A \$50 ticket will admit two guests (adults only) and includes:

- ✂ Entry into the \$13,500 in Cash Prizes
- ✂ Food Stations
- ✂ Coffee & Pop

Cash bars, feel free to bring your own appetizers!  
50/50's, Basket Raffles & Pull Tabs too!

Tickets are available by calling the St. Mary's Fundraising Hotline at 716-253-7880, the St. Mary's Church Rectory & Elementary School Office.

If you are interested in helping during this event please contact Caron Gill via text at 432-6631.

Additionally, if you are interested in donating a basket (valued \$25-\$50) please drop them by the school office by 9/21.



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## ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Lancaster, NY 14086

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www.smeschool.com

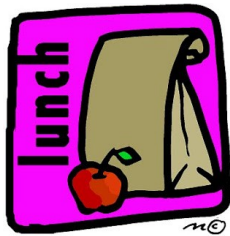
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

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

## CAFETERIA

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year!! After lunch, we enjoy getting the students outside for a bit of fresh air and we need at least 2 volunteers each day to do so. If you are interested in volunteering in the cafeteria please take a look at the flyer in the Blue Folder for more information. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation! If at any time you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at [lunchmonitor@smeschool.com](mailto:lunchmonitor@smeschool.com). I'm looking forward to a great year!

~ Mary Kate DeMarzio  
Cafeteria Supervisor



## TUITION OFFICE

Tuition Statements are sent as a courtesy only. All due dates are outlined on the Tuition Payment Schedule provided in your Registration Packet. Additionally, all payment due dates are indicated on your copy of the Tuition Contract provided to you. Parents are responsible for providing tuition payments based on the payment option chosen on the Tuition Contract. Please be mindful of all payment dates to avoid being assessed late fees. If you have questions, please contact the Tuition Office.



## HSA

New for the 2018-2019 school year:

Each month you will receive a newsletter specific to HSA! Here you will be able to see what is happening as well as a full financial report.

Stay in the know & keep your eye on the news!

Today you are receiving our Newsletter, brochure & room parent sign up form. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the HSA team.

## BOOK FAIR

Our fall book fair will be held  
October 24 –26.



Our book fair chairperson team is looking for some extra hands to help the students shop on the 25th & 26th. They will also need extra help on Friday afternoon as we break down our sale.

If you are interested in helping during the sale please contact Susan Duane at 435-0476.



New for the 2018-2019 School Year:

We are now offering drop off beginning at 7:00 am for all students at SME.

Please see the interest form in today's folder for more information.

There is no charge for this service!

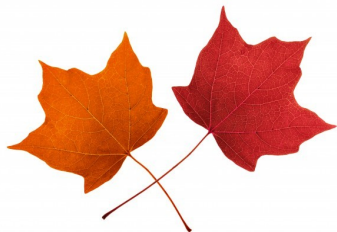


## ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP?

We are in need of help stuffing our weekly blue folders!

It works well when we have a team of 2 parents come in for about an hour on Wednesday mornings to prepare our blue folders.

Currently we are in need of one team, which would create a bi-weekly schedule. However, with more volunteers we could make it a monthly commitment. If you are interested and able or just want to find out more, please contact Amanda Kuhn at [secretary@smeschool.com](mailto:secretary@smeschool.com).



## HARVEST HOMECOMING & MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

Next Friday evening will be our Harvest Homecoming & Meet the Teacher Night from 5-8:00pm. Start your evening with dinner from local food trucks before a brief introductory meeting from our HSA team and then head on up to meet your teachers!

Buffalo's Best & Sweet Indulgence Curb Side Trucks will be here to fill you up!



## ATHLETICS

The diocesan league has announced that grades 5-8 may now participate in the cross-country meets. Competitive diocesan meets will be held on Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Oct.9, and Oct.22 at 4:30. The races will be 1.5 miles. Fall practices will be twice per week, usually weekday evenings 5:30-6:30. Please email Coach Julie Wolford at [jmwolford7473@yahoo.com](mailto:jmwolford7473@yahoo.com) to sign up and for the practice schedule. You must get a permission slip from the school nurse to sign up for cross country.

## STAY IN THE KNOW



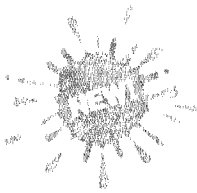
**Save the Date:** Wednesday, 9/26  
HSA Room Parent Social, 2:00pm, PC

**Save the Date:** Monday, 10/8 - No School, *Columbus Day*

**Save the Date:** Friday, 10/12 My Little Sweetheart Dance, 7-9:00pm, Gym

**Save the Date:** Wednesday, 10/24  
MP1 Ends, Progress Reports Uploaded

**Save the Date:** Wednesday, 10/24 - 10/26, Fall Book Fair, Gym



## Early Morning Drop Off

**SME will now be offering an early morning drop off starting at 7:00am**

- 7-7:30am buzzed into the school, go to cafeteria (Pre-K – 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- 7:30 – 7:50 students wait in the school gym (K-8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Pre-K drop off 7:30-8:00 parish center gym

We would like to have an idea of who will need EARLY morning drop off between 7:00am and 7:29am. Please fill out the form below and send back to the school office by Sept. 17th. This is just so we have an idea of how many students may need this. Thank you!

**Student First and Last Name(S)**

**Days (please circle days applicable)**

\_\_\_\_\_

Mon.    Tues.    Wed.    Thurs.    Fri.

\_\_\_\_\_

Mon.    Tues.    Wed.    Thurs.    Fri.

\_\_\_\_\_

Mon.    Tues.    Wed.    Thurs.    Fri.

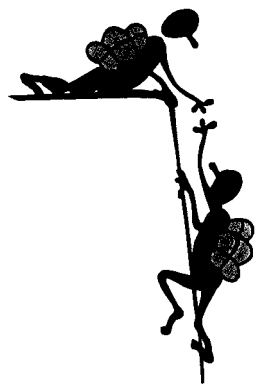
Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



## Why your support is so important . . .

Contributions by the Home School Association are a part of St. Mary's Elementary annual operating budget. In the 2016-2017 school year, HSA donated over \$20,000 in funds directly to the school

In addition to the financial contribution, over the years HSA has provided start-up funds for teachers, assistance to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade for t-shirts and the Drama Club for



their productions. HSA has also purchased dictionaries, over 500 library books and sewing machines for student use. Over the last few years a docking/charging cart was purchased for the Chrome Books

available for student use. HSA is committed to making contributions that help meet our children's needs.

## 2018 - 2019 General Meetings

### *Meet the Teachers*

Friday, Sept 21 at 5:30p-8p

### *Fall Scholastic Book Fair*

October 24th-26th

### *General Meeting*

Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6p

### *Catholic School's Week*

January 27<sup>th</sup>-February 2<sup>nd</sup>

### *Spring Scholastic Book Fair*

May 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>

### *Parent Night/Open House/Art Show/HAS Meeting*

April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6p-8p

## 2018 - 2019 SME HSA Team Members

**Annelis Staats-Szuder**  
(716) 510-0571

**Kristie May**  
(716) 998-6504

**Barbara Kalinowski**  
(716) 997-4000

[hsa@smeschool.com](mailto:hsa@smeschool.com)

## St. Mary's Elementary School



## Home School Association 2018 - 2019



# St Mary's HSA Thanks You for Your Continued Support Throughout the Year!

## Fundraisers

### **Fall Candy Bar Sale**

Each family is asked to sell at least one box of candy bars at the beginning of each school year.

This is HSA's largest fundraiser netting an annual profit of over \$30,000 last year!!!



**NEW! Fall Vendor Show:** check out HSA News Letter for more details.

**NEW! Homemade Pie Sale & Coffee Sale:** What a better way than to show up at Thanksgiving Dinner with a homemade pie & coffee

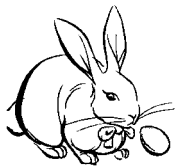
**Pancake Breakfast:** check out HSA News Letter for upcoming dates.

### **Fall & Spring Book Sale**

Scholastic Books offers a wide variety of books to our students. Parents are invited to join their children during designated times during the school day or in the evening to choose their favorite books. SME earns vouchers for book selections as profit from this fundraiser.

### **Easter Candy Sale**

Don't let the Easter bunny miss your house! Gertrude Hawk always offers a wide selection of delicious chocolate and spring holiday items.



### **Meat Raffle**

Lots of fun was had by all last year attendees so we are bringing it back again this year. SME will be hosting a Meat Raffle Fri Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> & March 29<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't attended one previously to see what all the excitement is about you'll want to come and check it out!

## Teacher & Staff Appreciation



As a token of our continued appreciation and support, HSA honors our dedicated teachers and staff throughout the year. We show our gratitude through monthly luncheons and a springtime reception served

by room parents, start-up funds provided in September, years of service awards and birthday acknowledgements.

### **Room Parents**

Volunteer parents are needed to assist with planning activities and special events for the students. Room parents are chosen for each classroom by a drawing and are invited to a Social in September to meet with the teachers and start organizing the year's events.



## School Spirit

### **Family Social Events**

HSA hosts special events for the entire family during the school year. Last year's event included a Family Fun Night Halloween Party.

### **St. Nicholas Day**

HSA brightens the Christmas season by contacting St. Nicholas' headquarters to inform them of what great, hardworking students we have at our school. We put in our request to make sure he stops at SME with a special surprise for all of the students on this special day.

### **Merry Moose Shoppe**

Each Christmas season students are given the opportunity to shop on their own for small gifts to surprise special people on Christmas Day.

### **Catholic Schools Week**

Mark your calendar for the most exciting week of the school year. Activities include an ice cream social, Open House, and an array of fun things throughout the week. We also honor a distinguished graduate of SME at a special mass.

### **Penny Fair**

One of the longest running SME traditions, the Penny Fair transforms the gymnasium into a mini-carnival with games of chance and skill. Children can win toys, candy, cakes and even plants to give to Mom on her special day.

### **School Picnic**

Our final celebration of the year is filled with games and activities for the children. Parents are welcome to volunteer or simply come enjoy the fun and festivities.

### **Friday Night Dances**

Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders look forward to several nights of fun and dance throughout the school year. Area Catholic school principals are given invitations to share with their students.



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# Home School Association Newsletter

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## Board Members/Contact Information:

**Barb Kalinowski** 997-4000

**Annelis Staats-Szuder** 510-0571

**Kristie May** 998-6504

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Dear Parents/Students,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year. We are looking forward to a fun year and have a lot of events / fun activities planned. We will be sending out monthly newsletters this year to keep you updated on the events coming up.

In our first newsletter, we would like to take this opportunity to tell you what HSA does.

HSA is currently run by three board members and runs several school spirit family social events and fundraisers including:

Merry Moose Shoppe

Catholic Schools Week Ice Cream Social

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Penny Fair

School Picnic

Halloween Party

Fall Candy Bar Sale

Fall & Spring Book Fair

Easter Candy Sale

Meat Raffles

Pancake Breakfasts

We are looking forward to expanding this year and are planning more family friendly events – but we can't do it without your help. If you are able to help us out either by being a board member / or helping out at an event please contact us. Our contact information is listed above. We are in the process of setting up a HSA email address and hope to have it in place by the next time a newsletter goes out. **The more help we have the more we can do! Please feel free to contact us at any time.** We look forward to hearing from you.

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## Upcoming Events

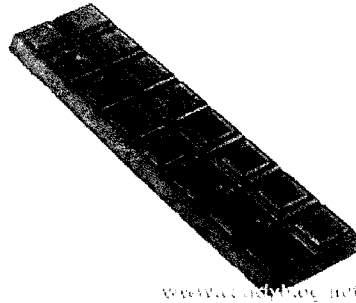
**October 27, 2018**

HSA Halloween Party

KK

## Candy Bar Sale is Up and Running

Our candy bar sale is up and running. It is our largest fundraiser of the school year and one we depend on in order to provide activities for our students, incentives for our teachers, and our classrooms up to date. Last year we made just under \$15,000 in profits and this is well under prior years where we have earned \$30,000. Let's make this year an all-time high in sales!! Start selling today!!!



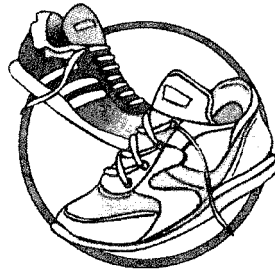
## Place your Hoodie Order today!!!

HSA will be placing hoodie orders in the beginning of October. These can be worn during the school day during winter months and will make great Christmas gifts. We keep a limited supply on hand, but cannot guarantee sizes will always be available. So put your order in now to ensure you receive a hoodie for the school year. Hoodie orders should be sent into the school office should be addressed to Kristie May, HSA. Order forms can be found on our website.



**We are Looking for New Board Members –  
Come Join Us!!!**

**ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



established in 1837 by St. John Neumann

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MARATHON**

The Catholic Schools Marathon began years ago as an event in which all Catholic schools in the Diocese of Buffalo were invited. Over the years it was held at various sites including Delaware Park. You can imagine the sense of belonging to a larger group that this would give to parents and children alike. The children would collect pledges prior to the event, run the course to meet their pledges, and then collect the pledges. Of course, refreshments, prizes and the fun of just getting together enhanced the experience. Proceeds were divided up between the local school and the Diocesan Federation of Home School Associations.

As time passed different sites were used; the organization of the event changed and the evolution of the Marathon resulted in its present format: a local school event. At SME we hold this event annually on the first Monday in October.

The monies earned from the Marathon are used to enhance technology here at SME.

Marathon participants collect pledges for a flat rate from family and friends (no door-to-door solicitation, please).

**Pledge sheets, which are also permission slips, need to be returned to the school by September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 please.** If we do not receive the signed permission slip then your child(ren) will not be able to participate in the marathon.



On Monday, October 1st, the students will all wear their gym uniform t-shirts/SME attire/Hoodies and outerwear appropriate for the weather. The students may wear appropriate shorts and or jeans free of tears and rips. Sneakers should also be worn.

Pledge sheets will be returned to the children for collection of pledges. **Please return pledged money by Friday, October 29, 2018.**

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT OF ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.***



JK



ST. MARYS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2 St. Mary's Hill  
Lancaster, NY 14086

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FAMILY MARATHON  
**PERMISSION/PLEDGE SHEET**  
TO BE HELD OCTOBER 1, 2018



My child(ren) has my permission to participate in the Catholic Schools Marathon on the premises of St. Mary's, Lancaster, NY. **PLEDGE SHEET DUE BACK BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2018 SIGNED AS PERMISSION FORM**

**\*\*\*PLEDGE MONEY DUE BACK BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2018\*\*\***

CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_ CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_  
CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_ CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_  
CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_ CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_



**IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD(REN) TO WALK THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED BY SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2018. THANK YOU.**

Signature of  
Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT SPONSOR'S NAME	PRINT SPONSOR ADDRESS	FLAT PLEDGE		AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT COLLECTED	CHECK #	CASH
				SME COORDINATOR FILLS OUT	TOTAL		

**\*\*\*PLEDGE MONEY DUE BACK BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2018\*\*\***



# ROOM PARENT SIGN UP

If you would like to serve as a Room Parent for your child's class, please fill out the form below and **return** it to the office **by Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**

- ☒ Room Parents will be chosen by drawing
- ☒ Responsibilities include service projects/class parties
- ☒ You must have and maintain Virtus Certification
- ☒ Flexibility to work daytime activities helpful

Notification will go out by Friday 9/21, as the office must verify Virtus and the list must be approved by the principal. We appreciate your patience while we do so. Every attempt will be made to notify you ASAP.

The Room Parent Social will be on Wednesday 9/26, from 2:00-3:30. Here you will meet with your child's teacher to plan the upcoming year. (Babysitting will be available).

**Please provide us with all the information below. Thank you!!**

**Room Parent Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Childs' Name Grade Teacher** *(If you have more than one child please list in order of preference)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Yes I would be a Contact Person**

JK

# **SME Fall Cross Country!**

**Now open to grade 5!**



- Spend time with friends!
- Get in shape for upcoming sports!
- Beginners through competitive runners welcome.
- For students going into grades 5-8.
- Run competitively this fall!

## **Fall Cross Country Team**

Grades 5-8 may sign-up for SME Cross-Country. Competitive diocesan meets will be held on Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Oct.9, and Oct.22 at 4:30. The races will be 1.5 miles. Fall practices will be twice per week, usually weekday evenings 5:30-6:30. Please email Coach Julie Wolford at [jmwolford7473@yahoo.com](mailto:jmwolford7473@yahoo.com) to sign up and for the practice schedule. You must get a permission slip from the school nurse to sign up for cross country. Deadline for sign-ups is Sept. 9.