

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 19 JANUARY 29, 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

This week as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, we ask that all of the students demonstrate the values and faith that they gain through their Catholic Education and learn how to make the world a better place. It is the job of all us here to participate in our mission of being disciples of Jesus and to love and serve others. To wrap up Catholic Schools Week, we will have a mass on Saturday, 2/1 followed by spirit games and an ice cream social at the school. Please join us at our mass celebration and the fun that follows.

Open House will be held on Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30. Although this is primarily for new families to tour the school, all of our current families are welcome to attend!

God’s Peace and Love,  
Mrs. Kwitowski



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2020

Catholic Schools Week Is Here!  
We’ve got a lot of fun packed into one week and we can’t wait!

*If you choose not to participate in the Dress Up Fun Days, you must be in full school uniform.*

**Thursday** - Buffalo Sports Day  
SOUPer Bowl Thursday: Bring in a can of soup to benefit the Lancaster Food Pantry  
Field Trips: Gr3-6

**Friday** - Dress for Success Day  
Career Day

**Saturday** - CSW Mass at 4:30 in the Church  
Ice Cream Social & Spirit Games following Mass

Following Saturday’s mass, the 2020 SME Spirit Games will be taking place in the school gym. Stop by for some games hosted by the SME athletic department. Some of the games included are: basketball shootout, timed speed races, accuracy hoop toss and more! SME students and kids of all ages are welcome to join in on the fun!



Catholic Schools  
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **1/31** - Distinguished Graduate Mass, 8:30
- **2/1** - Catholic Schools Week Mass, 4:30 in the Church, Ice Cream Social & Spirit Games following Mass
- **2/3 - 1:00 Dismissal**, Dress Down Day
- **2/4** - New Family Open house 6-7:30
- **2/5** - Spring Photo Day (Pre-K 3 - Gr 8), Pre-K 4 Graduation Photos, PR2 Upload
- **2/6** - 8th Gr Grad Photos
- **2/7** - Christian Witness Mass (Jan Recipients), 8:30
- **2/11** - Winter Sports Yearbook photos
- **2/12 - 2/13** K-5 Book Swap Days
- **2/17-2/21 - NO SCHOOL**

BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

From Jan. 7 - Jan. 20. Please check back next week for our next update.

Monthly Scrip Sales Goal	Monthly Scrip Profit Goal
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
January Profit-to-Date	Year Profit-to-Date
\$257.77	\$6,865.80

Questions can be directed to scrip@smeschool.com at any time.

CANDY BAR SALE:

Super custom blend boxes available by request & product availability. Contact Amanda Kuhn to find out more!

SHOPAROO:

Do you Roo? We have 26 supporters with plenty of space for more but are up to 32,075 points & 229 entries in the sweepstakes to earn bonus points!

BOXTOPS 4 EDUCATION:

Don’t forget, the program has been re-vamped. Download the BoxTops app & start earning today! Pillsbury is BACK! Earn on refrigerated Pillsbury products. For more info please visit: boxtops4education.com.

SPRING & GRADUATION PHOTOS

**Spring Photos** - Wednesday, February 5th.

Spring photos are optional. Only students who will be having a photo taken should attend school in ‘photo attire’. All other students are expected to be in full uniform.

**Pre-K 4 Graduation Photos** - Wednesday, February 5th

Each Pre-K 4 student will be photographed in cap & gown, no special attire is requested, however if you would like your child to dress up please feel free.

**8th Grade Graduation Photos** - Thursday, February 6th

We ask that our 8th graders wear either a white polo or button down dress shirt & tie as part of their uniform that day. Graduation photos are not full length photos and as such, there will be no alteration to the dress code for the day (ie: dress up day).

**Winter Sports Yearbook Photos** - Tuesday, February 11th

Students need to bring their sports uniform to change into prior to the photo.



Pre-K had a scavenger hunt on Tuesday & look who they found!



CSW Fun!

NJHS SALE

Our National Junior Honor Society students are hosting a Candy Gram sale!



For just .25 you can spread the love of the season to a friend, cousin, son, daughter, grandson/daughter, niece or nephew!

If you buy 8 you get one free! (9 for \$2!)

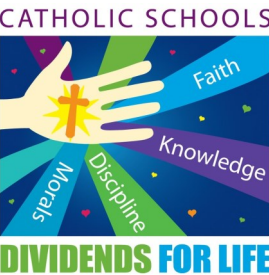
Money & tags (you can even write a message on the back) are due by Feb 5th and will be distributed on Valentines Day!

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OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED

Do you love SME? Well... **Spread the word!**



Pre-K - 8th Grade: Open House  
Tuesday, February 4th 6-7:30

Potential NEW Students & Families will have an opportunity to see our school & all we have to offer!

We are once again offering a \$250 tuition voucher for SME families who refer someone new to our K - 8 Program!

Don’t worry Moms & Dads!

Save the date because we are hosting an Open House & Parent Night for our current SME families on Tuesday, April 7th!

During this event we will be showcasing what we’ve been doing with an Art Show, STREAM Showcase, Book Fair & International Night.

You won’t want to miss it!

Back by popular demand: SCRIP Incentive to reduce your tuition payments!



## ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2 St. Mary's Hill  
Lancaster, NY 14086

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



UPON THIS HILL,  
WE DO GOD'S WILL



## SCRIP

When we work together on the \$1,500.00 monthly goal, it is less than a \$200 purchase in gift cards per family, per month, through the Scrip program. Since Scrip cards can be purchased for Tops Gasoline, Tops groceries, Amazon, Tim Hortons, paying your Kohl's bill, etc I am sure we can all find easy ways to help with this goal. Each week we will update what we have sold towards the monthly goal of \$30,000 in Scrip sales. There is a locked box outside the Athletics office so that you can drop off orders whenever it is convenient for you! There is also one in the back of the church.

We thank you for your support in making the Scrip program a success for our school, our Parish and for our children! Please contact the Scrip office at [scrip@smeschool.com](mailto:scrip@smeschool.com) to find out how you can support this fundamental program.

All sales will be in the Rectory on Mondays, Wednesdays-Fridays from 9:00-4:00. As usual, if you send your order into school with your child, your order will be sent home as soon as it has been filled. There will no longer be Scrip selling hours in the school on Mondays and Fridays from 8:00-9:00. Feel free to reach out with any questions: [scrip@smeschool.com](mailto:scrip@smeschool.com).

## BISON FUND

Beginning January 1, 2020 parents can visit the Bison Fund website @ [www.bisonfund.com](http://www.bisonfund.com) to complete a scholarship pre-application for the 2020-21 school year. **The pre-application form is only for families NEW to BISON.** Current families will receive an e-mail with a link to complete the requalification process in February 2020.

**The pre-application deadline is February 28, 2020.** All pre-applications will be entered into a lottery drawing in early March. If families are drawn in the lottery, they will receive an e-mail with instructions on how to proceed with the application. We will also notify families that are not selected and place them on the waiting list.

Please note, the scholarship amounts vary depending on the family's income, household size, and the school's tuition cost. The maximum award will remain at \$2100 per family for the 2020-21 school year. Families will be expected to contribute partial tuition towards their child's education.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the BISON Fund office at 716-854-0869.



## MEGA RAFFLE

The Mega Raffle order forms are in the blue folders this week, and you are welcome to reserve your favorite number at any time – just send an email to us with your requested number.

**\*\*New this year\*\*** We will have THREE early bird drawings to celebrate those of you that are able to get your payment in early! Check the flyer in the mailing for more information!

*We are in need of parents to coordinate the basket donations for this year's event. If you are interested in helping out with that, please reach out to Mary Kate DeMarzio at the email below.*

If you are interested in joining our committee, or helping with the event in any way, please contact us at [megaraffle@smeschool.com](mailto:megaraffle@smeschool.com).

Our next planning meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00** in Room 140.

## NURSE NOTES

All vision, hearing, and scoliosis screenings have been completed.

If your child needs further evaluation you received notification before the holiday break. It is important to have that form completed by your primary doctor or optometrist and have it returned to me as soon as possible. Vision problems can be common in children and if detected early enough, correction can be made. Vision problems can lead to many learning problems at school.

If you have any questions please give me a call.

Thank you!  
Mrs. Parker RN



## PARISH PASSAGE

You shop, Amazon gives!

When shopping through Amazon, please consider going to smile. Amazon.com and search for St. Mary's.

Be a superhero and purchase your SCRIP cards at the rectory and really hit the donation jackpot!

## SUMMER PROGRAM

We have some exciting information to share... This year our summer program will run the entire summer and will be open M-F, full days!

Keep your eye out for more info!

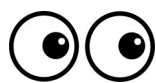


## HELP WANTED

The volunteer sign-up form will be live all year & will list all events where help is needed. Remember, many hands make light work, and so the more people that can help out, the more efficiently the events will run!

Type the following into your web address bar:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4BA5A728ABFA7-stmarys>



## PEEK INTO PRE-K

Our current preschool and Kindergarten students decorated our hallways for the Open house on January 21. The turnout was amazing.

We are currently accepting priority registration for the 2020-2021 preschool year. If you are continuing in our program or know someone who is interested in registering, please see Sheila Kierejewski in the front office.



Also, we are participating in the school-wide open house on Tuesday, February 4 from 6-7:30. Stop in and see what we have been doing!

Pre-K is always accepting donations of bikes/trikes with rubber wheels for gym time. Donations can be brought in at drop off or pick up to the teachers or to the office anytime during the school day. Thank you!

## DONATION APPS

Donating to SME is easier than ever!

With apps such as Shoparoo & BoxTops for Education all you have to do is Buy, Snap & Earn! Available for download in the Apple App Store & Google Play you can get started today!

**Shoparoo:** Snap pictures to earn points or entries into the sweepstakes for bonus points! We are up to 26 supporters and 32,075 points! The current fundraising year ends on 8/31/20.

**BoxTops:** No more clipping tiny coupons for you! Snap a picture of your register receipt with the purchase of BoxTop products and earn away! Pillsbury is back! You can once again earn boxtops on refrigerated Pillsbury products!

## 8TH GRADE INFO

**Can/Bottle Drive:** Donations can be dropped into the bins located in the foyer of the school anytime throughout the school year.

**Graduation Photos:** 8th Graders will have their graduation photos taken by Inter-state studio on Thursday, Feb. 6th. We ask that students wear a white polo that day with their uniform.



## PICTURES NEEDED

Hey Parents, Grandparents, even students! Do you have pictures from our sports games? If so we'd love to share them, maybe even get them into the yearbook!

If you have action shots of SME students playing any of our fall &/ or winter sports please email them to Mrs. Kierejewski at [kierejewski@smeschool.com](mailto:kierejewski@smeschool.com). Thank you!

## STAY IN THE KNOW



**Save the Date:** Sat. 2/1 Catholic Schools Week Ends, Ice Cream Social, Spirit Games

**Save the Date:** Mon 2/3 1:00 Dismissal, Dress Down Day

**Save the Date:** 2/17-2/21 No School

**Save the Date:** Fri 3/13 Mother/Son Bingo

**Save the Date:** Thurs, 3/19 SME's Got Talent Show



January 28, 2020

Dear Catholic School Families:

The Catholic Charities Appeal is once again asking for support to help fund the many services that it provides for our communities throughout Western New York. What you may not know is that the Appeal also helps to fund support for your Catholic schools.

The Department of Catholic Education conducts staff development for teachers and principals, assists in acquiring federal and state funds for schools, advocates for Special Education services, provides legal assistance, develops curriculum & instructional strategies, mentors new administrators, writes grants to support school programs, and provides all types of educational guidance to the schools. Our department also handles all of the STREAM programming, funding and training for the schools.

In previous years, the Catholic Charities Appeal collected funds and distributed those funds to Catholic Charities programs and to the Fund for the Faith. **It is through the Fund for the Faith that our Catholic education programs and schools have received its funding.**

For the second year, the Catholic Charities Appeal has changed the way individuals can donate. In an effort to be more transparent about where your donation goes, the donation forms have been changed. Accordingly, whether you donate using a donation card that you receive through your parish or donate online your choices are as follows:

- Option I-Donate to **Both Catholic Charities and the Fund for the Faith**
- Option II-Donate to **Catholic Charities Only**
- Option III-Donate to **Fund for the Faith Only**

**I encourage you to please donate to Option I.** Donating to both Catholic Charities and to the Fund for the Faith not only ensures that the good work of Catholic Charities continues for the neediest of our neighbors but also ensures that our Catholic schools continue to receive the support they deserve. Options II & III only serves to take from the good works of one at the expense of other.

You can make your donation online at: [www.ccwny.org/donation](http://www.ccwny.org/donation).

We are incredibly grateful for all of you who will chose to donate to the annual Appeal. Every day and every year we will continue to work at earning your trust and making sure your generosity supports our mission of faith.


Sincerely,

Dr. Michael C. LaFever  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

# February 2020

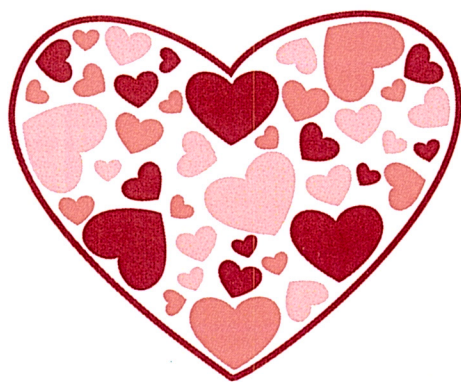
**Keep me here or  
post me at home!**

## St. Mary's Elementary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1  All: 4:30 Catholic Schools Week Mass, Ice Cream Social & Spirit Games to follow
2	3  <b>1:00 Dismissal</b> Professional Development Day  All: Dress Down Day	4  "Potential New Family" Open House (All grades) 6-7:30	5  K-8: Progress Report 2 Upload  Pre-K – Gr 8: Spring Photos  Pre-K 4: Graduation Photos	6  Grade 8: Graduation Photos	7  Christian Witness Mass, 8:30	8
9	10	11  Winter Sports Team Yearbook Photos: Bring Uniform!	12  Grades K-5: Book Swap Day 1	13  Grades K-5: Book Swap Day 2	14	15
16	17  <b>No School</b> Mid-Winter Recess through 2/21	18  _____	19  _____	20  _____	21  _____	22
23	24  School Resumes	25	26   <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> All: Mass, 8:30	27	28	29

Spread the Love of the Season with...

# Candy Grams!



Prices:

1=.25¢

Buy 8 Get 1 Free! (9=\$2.00)

Candy Grams are an easy way to show your friends that you care!  
Just bring your money and filled out tags to Mrs. Wojcik and Mrs.  
Gasiecki's room, and we'll do the rest! All money and tags are due by  
February 5th and will be delivered on February 14th.

NJHS thanks you for your support!

KK

*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

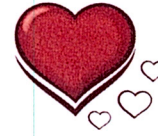
*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Happy Valentine's  
Day!*



To: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_