

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 21 FEBRUARY 12, 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

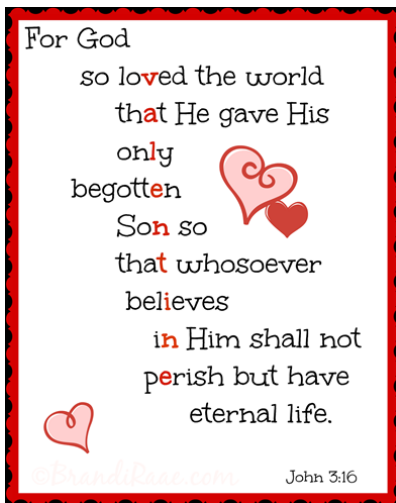
Happy Wednesday!

This Friday, 2/14, to celebrate Valentine's Day, we will have a dress up in either red or pink day. If you choose to not dress up, you should be in your school uniform, it is a mass day.

Please return registration packets as soon as possible. Thank you!

I wish everybody a relaxing break. Spend time with family and friends and take the time to recharge for this latter part of the school year.

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



READ ACROSS AMERICA

Read Across America will take place Monday, March 2nd - Friday, March 6th.

It is a time for the school to commemorate Dr. Seuss' birthday which is on March 2nd.

SME students and staff will be celebrating in a variety of ways throughout the week.

In the Blue Folder, you will find all the information for each day and what exciting things will be taking place.



As always encourage your child to

READ,

READ,

READ!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 2/13 - K-5 Book Swap Day 2
- 2/14 - Wear Red/ Pink Dress up Day
- 2/17-2/21 - NO SCHOOL
- 2/26 - Ash Wednesday Mass, 8:30am, Clam Chowder Dinner
- 3/2 - 1:00 Dismissal, Dress Down Day
- 3/6 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 3/13 - Mother / Son BINGO, 5:30-8pm
- 3/19 - SME's Got Talent
- 3/20 - No School, Prof. Development
- 3/25 - MP2: Report Card Upload (K-8)
- 3/25-26 - Gr 4 & 8 State Testing: ELA
- 3/27 - Ready SET Read & Battle of the Books

BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

From Feb. 4 - Feb. 10 the Scrip rebate profit earned for the school was \$101.80.

Monthly Scrip Sales Goal	Monthly Scrip Profit Goal
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
February Profit-to-Date	Year Profit-to-Date
\$254.76	\$7,278.26

We still have \$1,245.24 to go to reach our goal this month - I know we can do it!

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

CANDY BAR SALE:

Account status letters will be going out 2/24 with our sale wrapping up 3/6. Prizes will be awarded (on paid accts.) 3/16.

SHOPAROO:

Do you Roo? We have 26 supporters with plenty of space for more but are up to 36,700 points & 69 entries so far this month in the sweepstakes to earn bonus points!

BOXTOPS 4 EDUCATION:

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

PARISH PASSAGE

St. Mary of the Assumption
Ash Wednesday
Clam Chowder Dinner



Wednesday, February 26th
4-7pm in the P.C.

\$9/Person Includes:

- ◆ Choice of Fish or Grilled Cheese Sandwich
- ◆ Choice of New England Clam Chowder or Tomato Soup
- ◆ Dessert
- ◆ Non-Alcoholic Beverage



A La Carte Options:

- ◆ Quart of Soup: \$6
- ◆ Sandwich: \$3
- ◆ Dessert: \$1

Purse Collection:

St. Mary's Junior Ladies of Charity will be holding a parish wide "Gently Used Purse Collection" from February 8th thru February 23rd to benefit marginalized women in the Buffalo area.

The purses will be donated to the "Priceless Purses Organization" who will add personal care items to each purse and distribute them to organizations such as The Immigration and Refugee Center, St. Luke's Mission of Mercy, Hope House, Compass House, Cornerstone Manor and Gerard Place, just to name a few.

We are placing a collection box in the school and Church foyers to collect any donations.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Congratulations to our
Christian Witness Recipient's
for the month of January.

May you continue to be
"...visible examples of Gospel living."



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NURSE NOTES

We all know that the cold and flu viruses are among us. SME is making every effort to keep the staff and students healthy, and we are asking for your continued help. Please read the following reminders:

- ◆ Your child must be fever free for 24 hours in order to return to school-this must be without the use of a fever reducer (Tylenol/Motrin). Please do not give them a fever reduce and send them to school-chances are they are still not feeling good and are contagious.
- ◆ Your child must be free from vomiting and diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.
- ◆ We fully understand that coughing, sneezing, and runny noses are all a part of this season and school aged children developing immunity. Our school is equipped with sinks, hand soap, hand sanitizer, tissues and sanitizing wipes. Teachers have reviewed good hygiene practices to attempt to decrease the spread of germs. Please continue to practice these skills at home.
- ◆ Rest and increased fluids is one of the best ways to fight a cold or the flu. A day at home to do these things will make a big difference. Our teachers are very understanding and will be helpful to your child to make up any missed work. Please remember if your child will be absent to call the school office and to send in a note when they return. The SME family would like to thank you for your continued support and efforts to keep the staff and students healthy.

~ Mrs. Parker RN



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 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.

BISON FUND

Beginning January 1, 2020 parents can visit the Bison Fund website @ 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.



R-SET-R & BATTLE OF BOOKS



Our SET committee is proud to present this year's Ready SET Read theme: Welcome to the Jungle!

This event is for our students in Pre-K through Grade 3.

We encourage our students in grades 4-8 to participate in the Battle of the Books!

The bookmark contest ends on February 28th!

Registration information will be forthcoming.

Ready SET Read & the Battle of the Books will be held on Friday, March 27th!



MEGA RAFFLE

The Mega Raffle ticket sales are off to a great start! To date, **90** tickets have been sold for the Mega Raffle. There are **610** tickets remaining – did you get yours??

We have sold out all 4 previous years! Orders will be filled once per week, so please be patient if you do not see your ticket come home the day that you send your check in. Winners will be announced live Friday, June 12th in the Parish Center.

****The first early bird drawing is Sunday, March 1st.**

Be sure to get your orders in for a chance to win \$250!!**

If you wish to donate an item for our basket raffle, we have set up a wedding registry on Amazon.com under the name 2020 Mega Raffle. All items purchased will be shipped directly to the school. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

As a reminder, the Mega Raffle fund raiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. So far, **36** of the tickets have been **sold or purchased by school families** – thank you for your support!! Please feel free to get creative with Social Media (posting this great opportunity to Facebook feeds, etc) as well as encourage multiple people to chip in on one ticket! 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. Extra flyers are in the school office.

We need volunteers to work the night of the event, as well as set up the evening before. If you are interested in helping out with that, please reach out to Mary Kate DeMarzio at me garaffle@smeschool.com.

SUMMER CAMP

As we button up the details of our Summer Camp Program you can contact Amanda Kuhn to get your name on the list to be the first to know!

Registrations will go out to all families as soon as possible.

FACE LIFT

FAST Club is now called Afterschool Care.

Please make note of this. Moving forward, all paperwork and statements will have the new name reflected on them.

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>

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 36,700 points!

The current fundraising year ends on 8/31/20.

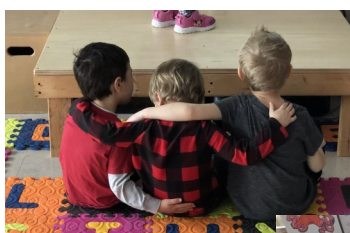
BoxTops: No more clipping tiny coupons for you! Snap a picture of your register receipt with the purchase of BoxTop products and earn away! Pillsbury is back! You can once again earn boxtops on refrigerated Pillsbury products!

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 kierjewskis@smeschool.com. Thank you!

PEEK INTO PRE-K



Happy Valentines Day from our Love Bugs!



Mrs. O'Grady's class all earned Olympic Medals this past week!



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.



STAY IN THE KNOW



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

Save the Date: Fri. 3/27 - Ready SET Read & Battle of the Books

Save the Date: Tues, 4/7 - SME Parent Night Open House, Art Show, International Night & Book Fair



NOW ONLINE

NIAGARAFUNDRAISING.COM/CATALOG

Dear Parent or Guardian:

St. Mary's Elementary will be participating in the Niagara Chocolates Catalog fundraiser from February 12th to February 20th .

***** New This Year! *****

All orders will be entered online at the completion of your sale. When you are finished selling please use your Computer, Tablet or Smartphone and go to **NiagaraFundraising.com/catalog**. You will need your organization code. Enter your order summary as prompted.

Our School/Organizational ID is: STMAR7S

Steps for a Successful Sale:

1. Please share your brochure and order form with your family, friends, and co-workers. We do not encourage selling door-to-door.
2. Let your customers fill out their own order in the catalog, thank them, and let them know when you will be collecting money and when to expect their orders.
3. Our school is tax-exempt. Please be sure to let your customers know the correct total of their order.
4. Checks should be made payable to St Mary's Elementary HSA.
5. Once you are done selling, go to **NiagaraFundraising.com/catalog**. Register and enter your order summary using our School Code.
6. Money for your orders is due by Tuesday, February 25th. Please send complete payment in an envelope marked Attn: Cheryl Walczak/ Niagara Chocolate sale.
7. Keep your catalog and order summary for your records!

*Orders are due online by Thursday, February 20th.

*Pick up will be Wednesday, March 18th from 4:30pm to 6:00pm

*A dress down ticket will be given for every \$50 in sales.

If you have any questions, please text Cheryl Walczak at 716-901-1673.

Thank you for your participation. The success of our Fundraiser depends on you!

GOLDEN GRIFFIN SUMMER BOX & FIELD LACROSSE CAMP

POWERED BY BUFFALO LACROSSE TRAINING

Come train this summer in Box & Field Lacrosse at our inaugural hybrid camp led by the Canisius College Men's Lacrosse Coaching Staff. Our coaches have playing and coaching experience at every level of lacrosse: NCAA, National Lacrosse League (NLL), Major League Lacrosse (MLL), Premier Lacrosse (PLL), and Teams Canada & USA!

Each day players will spend half of the day training in the outdoor and indoor games. Individual skills, group drills, and games will create a unique lacrosse camp experience for players in WNY.



WHY BOX LACROSSE?

- Non-stop action, everyone plays offense & defense
- Ball is rarely out of bounds = more touches
- Increased reps helps improve stick skills
- Lacrosse IQ/Decision Making
- Footwork, movement, and communication
- Shooting and passing accuracy

Daily Camp Schedule

<i>Morning Field Session</i>		<i>Afternoon Box Session</i>	
9:00am	Stick Skills Warm-Up	12:30pm	Stick Skills
9:30am	Individual Skills Training	1:00pm	2-Man Game Instruction
10:00am	Small Group Drills	1:30pm	Shooting Drills
10:30am	Transition/Unsettled	2:00pm	4v4/Transition Drills
11:00am	Scrimmages/Games	2:20pm	Scrimmages/Games
11:30am	Lunch	3:00pm	Dismissal

Register online at www.buffalolacrosstraining.com

Discounts for groups of 5 or more from the same team.

Questions, contact Coach Derek Marks at marks6@canisius.edu

Who: Boys in Gr 5-8 (20-21 SY)

Dates: June 29th-July 2nd

When: 9am-3pm

Where: Northtown Center at Amherst
1615 Amherst Manor Dr
Williamsville, NY

Cost: \$275 (+ 3% processing fee)
Early Bird price of \$245 till 2/14

Includes:

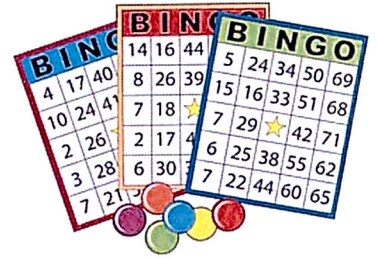
- NCAA, Pro, Int. Coaches
- 10+ hours of Box Lacrosse
- 10+ hours of Field Lacrosse
- Camp Reversible
- Box Pads for camp
- Certified Athletic Trainer
- Prizes

Must bring:

- Helmet
- Stick
- Gloves
- Shoulder & Arm Pads
- Cleats & Sneakers
- Water Bottle
- Lunch & Snacks

Mother & Son

BINGO



Night!!!

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

Friday, March 13, 2020

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



\$10.00 per person



Payment due by:
Monday, March 2nd 2020
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 Mar. 2nd. Thank you!

We are still in need of at least **5 Dads** to help out that night at the event and clean-up. We could use 2 Moms to help set-up. If you can help, please fill out the information below. If you are able to help *Set-up will start at 4:00 and clean-up right after BINGO.*

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

Read Across America Week 2020

Monday, March 2nd - Friday, March 6th



Attention SME Families!

The week of Monday, March 2nd to March 6th is Read Across America Week commemorating Dr. Seuss (Theodore Geisel's) Birthday. SME students and staff will be celebrating in a variety of ways throughout the week.

- Who's Who of SME? - Teachers/Staff will have their picture taken with their favorite children's book. The catch is that the book will be covering their face. The pictures will be set up in a Whoville display outside the cafeteria for students to try and guess the teacher/ staff behind the book. At the end of the week students will turn in their guesses for the challenge to find WHO was able to correctly guess the most staff members from looking at their pictures. The students with the most correct guesses will win a dress down pass.
- Caught Red Hatted Raffle - We are going to boost book interest by awarding raffle tickets to students "caught" reading for enjoyment during non-instructional times. A winner will be drawn at the end of the week from all the entries to win a prize.
- Special guest readers - will be visiting the classrooms throughout the week as well.

Mon. March 2nd - Readers Oath & Dress in Red, White or Black with a Hat or as the Cat in honor of the Cat in the Hat: SME School will take the Reader's Oath during the morning announcements to launch Read Across America week. * SME students can dress in Red, White or Black with a Hat or as the Cat in honor of the Cat in the Hat today. Students may be out of uniform today only if they are dressed as stated above.

Tues. March 3rd - Green Eggs & Ham: Students can dress in green from head to toe today. Green, Ham & Eggs will also be available for students to purchase for lunch this day.

Wed. March 4th - Wacky Wednesday: Students can dress in their wackiest clothes today.

Thurs. March 5th - Oh the Places You'll Go!: Students can dress as a World Travelers today. For example: Grass skirt for Hawaii, Plaid Kilt for Scotland, Kimono for Japan, etc...

Fri. March 6th - Fox in Sox: Today is a mass day. Students will wear crazy socks. Students will also be asked to donate a pair of socks. We will conduct a sock drive to both raise awareness of the plight of the homeless and the problems they have from not having new socks. We will be donating to a local charity.

Parents: If you have any connections with the press, please share our good news with them. Let's brag to all about what a great school we have.

**As always, remember to encourage your child to
READ, READ, READ!**

Ticket Raffle

Buffalo Sabres VS. Chicago Blackhawks

(2) 100 Level Seats

Saturday, March 21st, 2020

2pm start

3 chances for \$10.00

Winner of tickets will be pulled Friday, March 13th, 2020
Please detach and send in form below with your information
and payment by Monday, March 9th, 2020 for a chance
to win Sabres tickets!!!

We have (15) of the Sabres 50th Year yearbooks available in the
school office. If you would like to purchase one, please stop in the
school office. They are \$10.00 each. Once they are gone, they
are no longer available.

**BUFFALO
SABRES**



**BUFFALO
SABRE**

**BUFFALO
SABRES**

**BUFFALO
SABRES**

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Number of chances (3 for \$10.00) total _____

Please return to school office by 3/9/2020

Check # _____

KK

St. Mary's Elementary Presents...



SME'S Got Talent

THURSDAY, MARCH 19th
IN THE SCHOOL GYM

Doors Open @ 5:15pm
Dinner @ 5:30pm
Variety Show @ 6:00pm

Dinner Includes: Hot Roast Beef Sandwiches, Homemade Mac-n-Cheese, Salad,
Beverages & Dessert

Please return attached slip with payment no later than Thursday, March 5th
NO ADDITIONAL PERSONS MAY BE ADDED AFTER THIS DATE.



Variety Show Dinner Reservation

Reserved Seating for Family Name: _____
Number Attending: _____ X \$8.00 per person = _____
Paid by Check # _____ Paid by Cash _____

****Due to the nature of the performance, there is no admittance without a pre-paid reservation.**

KY