

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 10 NOVEMBER 18, 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

Next week, we will only be in school on Monday and Tuesday so that our families can enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday. Please remember what the DOH has advised regarding Thanksgiving: "The safest way to celebrate Thanksgiving this year is to celebrate with people in your household. If you do plan to spend Thanksgiving with people outside your household, take steps to make your celebration safer." I want all our families to stay safe and healthy!

I have ordered the test kits that will be needed for testing while we remain in the yellow zone. I am working with St. Mary's High School on testing arrangements and I am truly grateful to the medical professionals who are part of the SME family and have offered to assist us in administering our tests. If we go into the orange zone, we will have to go remote. If we go into orange and then move back down to yellow, we would be able to go back to in person learning with the 20% testing. The good news about the 20% testing is that if we have a positivity rate lower than the current 7-day positivity rate in the yellow zone, we will not have to continue the testing.

To test our students, we would need parental consent. I am asking that you please fill out the consent form. It is a minimally invasive test (the swab is inserted less than 1" into the nostrils, rotated 5 times and then removed) that only takes seconds to perform. These tests will not only help to keep our school family safe but also your family as well. If the virus is detected, many people can be prevented from becoming ill. These few seconds of a test can also help to ensure that we are able to continue our in-person instruction. I am asking that you fill out the consent for testing form that is attached to this link.

Link: <https://forms.gle/Trag7ADVYiArRdE69>

"Give thanks not just on Thanksgiving Day, but every day of your life. Appreciate and never take for granted all that you have."
-Catherine Pulsifer

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 11/20 - Doughnut & Cider Delivery Day
- 11/25-27 - No School, Thanksgiving Recess
- 11/30 - 1:00 Early Dismissal, Staff PD
- 12/1 - Wreath & Poinsettia Delivery Day
- 12/4 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am, Reindeer Lane Gift Shop
- 12/8 - School Mass, Immaculate Conception
- 12/15 - K-8 Report Card Upload
- 12/23/20 - 1/1/21 - Christmas Recess
- 1/4 - Back to School

BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

November 3, 2020 to November 9, 2020, the Scrip rebate profit earned towards tuition was \$421.70

Collectively, St. Mary's goal is to sell \$30,000 in Scrip each month with a rebate goal of \$1,500.

Monthly Scrip Sales Goal	Monthly Rebate Profit Goal
\$30,000.00	\$1,500.00
November Sales Total	Annual Rebate (3/2020 - 2/2021) Profit to Date
\$14,390.00	\$6,026.12

In September, our sales were just shy of our goal coming in at \$28,590 and in October we surpassed our goal by \$970!

Contact the Scrip office at scrip@smeschool.com to find out how you can support his fundamental program!

CANDY BAR SALE:

Expenses: (\$5577.99)
Deposits: \$6329.00
Profit/(Loss): \$751.01

candybarsale@smeschool.com.

All flavors are \$1/bar, \$48/box.

Electronic Order form:

<https://forms.gle/qJyoyPaA4uhqpgdba>

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Thank you for your support of our Little Caesar's Fundraiser.
With your help we raised \$1266!

Our top sellers were: Annalee M., Ava S. & Ethan T. who received a free Hoodie!

We are hosting a Fudge & Jam sale through Becker Farms along with Coffee & Tea from Premium Roasters (Individual, Whole Bean & Ground options) just in time for gift giving!

Orders can be placed via the google form:

<https://forms.gle/Xnk3kjvdG4jtE98p9>

Or using the paper forms which are included electronically today.

Delivery is Thursday December 17th.

Current/Upcoming Fundraisers:

- ◇ Fudge & Jams from Becker Farms 11/18-11/30
- ◇ Panera Bread Fundraiser: December 17th
- ◇ Fudge/Jam/Coffee Pick up Dec. 17th
- ◇ Candy Bar Sale featuring Gertrude Hawk Chocolate - All flavors are once again in stock!

2021 CALENDAR CLUB FUNDRAISER

Our new Calendar Club is in full swing and sales are going great! To date we have sold 564 calendars - get yours before it is too late! Any calendars not sold by 12/31/2020 will become the property of St. Mary's.

There is a copy of the flyer/order form on the NewsNote tab of the school website: www.smeschool.com

If you have any questions, or would like to request numbers, please email the chair, Jessica Kulpit at jesskulpit@gmail.com.



There is **no need** to return the bottom remittance portion of the calendar.

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THE SHOW MUST GO ON!



Should the directive come down that we move to remote learning, NewsNotes, fundraisers & events such as the Reindeer Lane Gift Shop will continue!

It is important that you keep your eye on your inbox for the latest information on how these events will carry on.

STREAM FUNDRAISER

Don't forget the Doughnuts!

Our STREAM Doughnut & Cider Fundraiser ends Friday!



Pick up is scheduled for Tuesday, November 24th from 2:30-6:00pm - Just in time for Thanksgiving!



Orders can be placed via the following link:

<https://forms.gle/9WNSbbPwyjs4UGjW8>



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



HSA - REINDEER LANE GIFT SHOP

Each year we host a gift shop for our students to spread Christmas cheer to their families! We are happy to continue this tradition hosting a Reindeer Lane Gift Shop on Friday, December 4th following Mass.

Our students will have a chance to come to the shop with their class for gifts ranging in price from \$1-\$5.00.

If you are interested in helping, we are able to bring in a limited number of volunteers to ensure a smooth shopping experience. Please contact Jen Carroll at jcarr2300@gmail.com for more information.

Should the directive come down that we need to move to remote learning we will still host the event by appointment only. Please keep your eye out for more information should that change arise.



SCRIP CORNER

NEW!! Your gift cards can now be delivered to your door! No more planning for the order schedule, or worrying about picking them up. You now have the option to get gift cards from hundreds of top-selling brands sent right to you with the new ship to home feature – available only in the mobile app, RaiseRight. Shipping fees apply and you must pay with a bank account or credit card.



The very first 2-day ThankScriping Day is coming November 19 – 20. It's your opportunity to earn up to 20% with 120+ bonuses on eGift cards and reloaded gift cards. Mark your calendar and help support our organization with your holiday shopping list—from the comfort of your home. Watch the ShopWithScrip Facebook page for more details: <https://www.facebook.com/ShopWithScrip/>

All Scrip sales are in the Rectory on
Monday, Wednesday - Friday from 8:00-3:00.

We thank you for your support in making the Scrip program a success for our school, our Parish and for our children!

Please remember to send in your brown Scrip envelope with your order. If you order online, please send your envelope in for us to return your order to you. Thank you!

*If you have any questions, please email scrip@smeschool.com.
Your Scrip Team: MaryKate DeMarzio & Jessica Kulpit*

WEATHER RELATED CLOSINGS

Should a closing occur due to the weather it will be announced on all local tv news stations.

We are a part of the Lancaster Central School District. As such, when they close for the day, we close. **HOWEVER** should Lancaster decide to cancel afterschool/evening activities this does not automatically include our school.

Please keep watch for an update from us. We will always submit our closing/ cancelling independently. Please make sure you are paying attention to the high school vs. elementary school in that scroll/list. Safety of our students, and families, is always at the forefront of our decision making. When bad weather hits, our eyes stay on the forecast and we make a plan. Our goal is to notify you as soon as we are able to with any changes or concerns.

HELP WANTED

Thank you to the families that have reached out to volunteer for upcoming events! As you know, our success depends on you!

Active involvement of all our families is necessary to keep school expenses to a minimum, encourage community involvement, and assure continued success of our school.

We hope to promote the true spirit of participation and volunteerism by inviting you to get involved in one or more of our 3 main fundraisers:

- Mega Raffle (June 2021)
- Golf Tournament (July 2021)
- Fall Fest (Autumn 2021)



In addition to chairs for events, we are looking for committee members who would be interested in assisting the chairs as they plan. If you would like to join the committee for any of the events listed above, please reach out to our Events Coordinator, Mary Kate DeMarzio at marykate@stmarysonthehill.org or (716) 683-6445, ext. 12.

Your involvement is vital to the success of these events!

CANDY BAR SALE

Orders can be placed at any time via the google form:

<https://forms.gle/qJyoyPaA4uhqpgdbA>

Please feel free to contact the candy bar team at:

candybarsale@smeschool.com
if you...

- Have any questions
- Need the order link emailed
- Would like a hard copy

* We are asking each family to sell (2) boxes of chocolate.*

Boxes contain 48 bars and cost just \$1 per bar. Factory mixed boxes as well as the ever popular 'build your own' option are available.

Payment is due within 30 days of distribution by cash, check, charge (of 2 boxes or more) or Venmo by request.

Your candy bar team,
Cheryl Barber & Amanda Kuhn

OUR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOU

As per the tuition schedule that was included in your registration paperwork:

Family Service Hour & Fundraising Participation Responsibility is expected of each family. Regardless of parish affiliation and tuition rate, active involvement of all SME families is necessary to keep school expenses to a minimum, encourage community involvement, and assure continued success of our school. SME hopes to promote the true spirit of participation and volunteerism which is not compensated.

Family Service Hour & Fundraising Participation Responsibility is expected of each family. Responsibilities include 20 Service Hours per family and purchase and/or sell 3 Fall Fest tickets @ \$50 ea, 2 Mega Raffle tickets @ \$100 ea, 10 Golf Super Raffle tickets @ \$5 ea, and 1 box of chocolate @ \$48

We have had to adjust our fundraising plans with the current COVID restrictions and so we were unable to hold our Fall Fest this year. To offset the difference, we are asking each family to sell 1 additional Mega Raffle ticket (total of 3) and 1 additional box of chocolate (total of 2).

FLYERS & FORMS

Although we are going green as much as possible; hard copies of any flyer or form are always available and can be sent home with your child.

Please email Mrs. Kuhn (secretary@smeschool.com) at any time if you need a hard copy.

PARISH PASSAGE

Please enjoy the Advent booklet coming home with your child. It is our hope that your family will spend 'five minutes with the Word' this advent season which begins on November 29th.

We are...

SME Strong!



8TH GRADE INFO

If your child is planning on attending a Catholic High School, please don't forget to submit the signed record release form as indicated in your application confirmation email.

If your child is planning to shadow at any of the local catholic high schools please be sure to notify the school office & middle school teachers. Shadow days should be planned around any tests/quizzes that may be assigned by the middle school team.

Thank you to those that supported our Poinsettia & Wreath Sale!
Orders will be in on December 1st.



thank you!



STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: 11/20 Doughnut & Cider Delivery Day

Save the Date: 11/25-27 Thanksgiving Recess

Save the Date: 11/30 1:00 Dismissal

Save the Date: 12/1 Poinsettia & Wreath Sale Delivery Day

Save the Date: 12/17 Fudge/Jam/Coffee Pick up day

Save the Date: 12/17 Panera Fund-raiser Day



HELP SUPPORT

ST MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WHERE 4910 Transit Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14043

WHEN Thurs, Dec 17th

FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Bring this flyer or show an electronic version to the cashier when you place your order and we'll donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.*

We're committed to your safety.

This cafe offers these additional ordering options so you can support the cause in whichever way you feel most comfortable. When ordering online, enter code **PRFUND** at checkout to ensure your organization gets a portion of the proceeds.



Drive-Thru



Panera Curbside



Delivery*



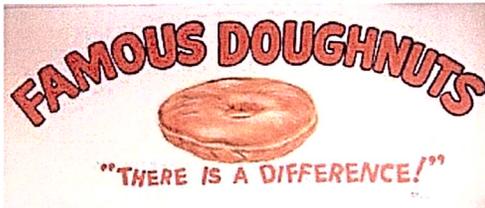
Rapid Pick-Up*

*Gift card purchases, catering, kiosk, and third party delivery orders are excluded and will not count towards the event. Services vary by cafe.

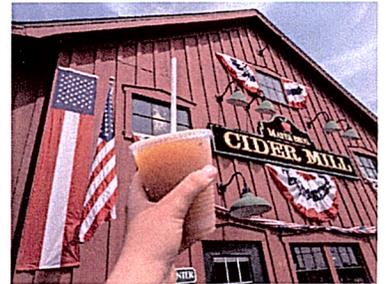
Learn more at FundraisingPaneraBread.com

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DOUGHNUTS & CIDER FUNDRAISER FOR STREAM!



*Do you like doughnuts
& cider?*



If so, please consider supporting STREAM by purchasing doughnuts & cider from our latest fundraiser. Your doughnuts and cider will be fresh and delivered in time for Thanksgiving!

The doughnuts are from Famous Doughnuts & the cider comes from Mayer Brothers Cider Mill!

THIS FUNDRAISER RUNS NOVEMBER 9 - NOVEMBER 20TH

Orders and payments are due by the morning of 11/20.

PICK UP WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH @ SME 2:30-6:00PM

USE THE ADDRESS TO ACCESS THE ORDER FORM:

<https://forms.gle/9WNSbbPwyjs4UGjW8>

Cider: \$5.00/gal. & \$3.50/half-gal.

Doughnuts:

\$12.00/doz. Glazed only

\$15.00/doz. 1 variety *Glazed, Jelly, Cream-Filled, and Chocolate Glazed

\$15.00/doz. Assorted (3 of ea. variety)

****Glazed, Jelly, Cream-Filled, and Chocolate Glazed***

KK