

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 8 NOVEMBER 4, 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

Next Tuesday, November 10th, we will be holding our parent/teacher conferences. If you have not signed up for a conference, please go onto the link that has been created and sign up. We will be dismissing at 10:45 am to accommodate the conferences. Please only sign up if you have concerns and would like to "meet" with your child's teacher.

There is no school on Wednesday, November 11th in honor of our country's Veterans. May God bless all the men and women who have served and who continue to serve.

With the holidays quickly approaching, I ask that you remain vigilant regarding COVID 19 protocols. One confirmed case can put the entire school community at risk. Please see below for some CDC recommendations regarding Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is a time when many families travel long distances to celebrate together. Travel increases the chance of getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others. If you must travel, be informed of the risks involved.

Lower risk activities

Having a small dinner with only people who live in your household

Preparing traditional family recipes for family and neighbors, especially those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and delivering them in a way that doesn't involve contact with others

Having a virtual dinner and sharing recipes with friends and family

Shopping online rather than in person on the day after Thanksgiving or the next Monday

Watching sports events, parades, and movies from home

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." ~Helen Keller

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 11/6 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 11/10 - 10:45 Dismissal, Parent/Teacher Conferences
NO AFTERSCHOOL CARE TODAY
- 11/11 - No School, Veterans Day
- 11/25-27 - No School, Thanksgiving Recess
- 11/30 - 1:00 Early Dismissal, Staff PD
- 12/4 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 12/8 - School Mass, Immaculate Conception
- 12/15 - K-8 Report Card Upload
- 12/23-31 - Christmas Recess

BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

October 20, 2020 to October 26, 2020, the Scrip rebate profit earned towards tuition was \$583.31

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
October Sales Total	Annual Rebate (3/2020 - 2/2021) Profit to Date
\$27,055.00	\$4,992.70

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

CANDY BAR SALE:

Online orders are preferred but hard copies of the form are available at any time.

Questions can be sent at any time to candybarsale@smeschool.com.

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

Electronic Order form:

<https://forms.gle/eq1au7amGqRBrbLj6>

P/T CONFERENCES

We will be hosting parent teacher conferences via Zoom this year on 11/10.



If you are interested in meeting with your child(ren)s teacher please sign up by the end of the day tomorrow, Thursday 11/5 as the form will be closing to allow our teachers the time to send out the invite links.

Conference times will begin at 11:45 and will run for 10 minutes at a time until 3:45.

Parent/Teacher conferences are not mandatory. This is the perfect opportunity to chat with your child's teacher to establish a path to success if they are having any academic struggles.

Please use the following link to sign up for a time with your child(ren)s teacher:

<https://tsu.me/mzacbd>

2021 CALENDAR CLUB FUNDRAISER

Our new Calendar Club is in full swing and sales are off to a great start!

The informational fliers were sent home last week (10/28), and the parish mailing went out on 10/30. There is also a copy of 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.



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AFTERSCHOOL CARE INFORMATION

If you need to reach our Afterschool Care team following dismissal please call 683-2112 x112.

Updates to the Afterschool Care Schedule:

There will not be Afterschool Care on Tuesday 11/10 (nor on any 10:45 dismissal day)

There will be Afterschool Care on Friday 12/4

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (PTA)

The HSA team will host a variety of fundraisers throughout the school year. Each fundraiser benefits the school and students directly.

We are currently out of Pretzel candy bars. More will be ordered when we have a larger variety of flavors to restock on. There are still plenty of delicious options to choose from!

Current/Upcoming Fundraisers:

- ◇ Candy Bar Sale featuring Gertrude Hawk Chocolate
- ◇ Panera Bread Fundraiser: December 17th



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



RED RIBBON WEEK

On Thursday, 10/29, 22 Faculty and Staff voted on Red Ribbon week posters designed by the Middle School students.

Students were given the poster criteria in Art. They were responsible for brainstorming ideas and ultimately completing the 9 x 12 full-color version of the poster at home. This year's theme was, "Your Future is Key... Be Drug Free". Great job to every student that submitted a poster! It was tough for the "voters" to pick just 3 posters in each grade category.

Congratulations to the SME 2020 - Red Ribbon Poster

Contest Winners:

6th Grade:

- 1st place- Aidan H.
- 2nd place- Daniella B.
- 3rd place- Rylee C.



7th Grade:

- 1st place- Sophia D.
- 2nd place- Gabrielle D.
- 3rd place- Erika H.



8th Grade:

- 1st place- Evan S.
- 2nd place- Madison K.
- 3rd place- Ella C.



SCRIP CORNER

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. 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. There is a locked box outside the school office, as well as in the back of the church, so that you can drop off orders whenever it is convenient for you!

The new mobile app, RaiseRight by ShopWithScrip, is simply the right way to fundraise. Shop gift cards from more than 750 top brands to earn on your daily purchases. Anytime you want, anywhere you go.

Get the app: <https://www.raiseright.com/>

All Scrip sales are in the Rectory on Mondays, Wednesdays-Fridays 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

Our first flakes of the year have come & gone.

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

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)



We are currently in need of families to help chair the Golf Tournament and Fall Fest. The previous chairs are on hand to work with you, as well as the Events Committee—we love the team approach!

For more information on what these events entail, 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/eq1au7amGqRBrLj6>

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

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.



We still have a few copies of the Buffalo Sabres 50th Anniversary Yearbook available.

If you are interested in a copy please submit your payment in an envelope

Attn: Sabres Yearbook
and your copy will be sent home the same day!



The cost is just \$10.00 a book.

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.

The Catholic High School Entrance Exam will be held on 11/21. Your child should take the exam at their first choice HS.

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.

The 8th grade is sponsoring a Poinsettia & Wreath sale through November 9th.



An order form is attached with the 10/28 NewsNote if you are interested in supporting this sale. Thank you in advance.

STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: 11/10 10:45 Early Dismissal, **NO AFTERSCHOOL CARE TODAY**

Save the Date: 11/11 No School, Veterans Day

Save the Date: 11/25-27 Thanksgiving Recess

Save the Date: 11/30 1:00 Dismissal

Save the Date:

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish
1 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086

November 3, 2020

Dear Parents,

We are taking a "straw vote" to be sure we provide adequate and safe space for all who will be joining us for Christmas Mass. Mass celebrated in Church will be streamed into the Parish Center and Parish Gym – so we might allow for social distancing. Ministers of the Eucharist will be scheduled for all three locations.

We are NOT asking for reservations just an idea of which Mass your family will most likely attend on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Please complete the short questionnaire and return it to your child's teacher by Nov.9th.

Your response – even though it may be tentative - will help us plan appropriately.

Thank you!
St. Mary's Liturgy Committee

Our current Mass schedule for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

EVE 4:00 PM 6:00 PM MIDNIGHT DAY 8:00 AM 10:00 AM NOON

_____ Our family plans to attend the _____ Mass.

We will have _____ members in attendance.

_____ We plan to live-stream the Christmas Mass **at home** this year.

Comments or questions:

Please return to this form to your child's teacher by November 9.



St. Mary's High School

St. Mary's is thrilled to welcome our prospective students and families onto campus safely for in-person tours and meet and greets with administration, faculty, staff, and current students.

There are several ways to experience life at St. Mary's in the Fall!

Wednesday, November 4th to Friday, November 6th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Entrance Exam (HSPT) Review Course – for 8th grade students

Make sure you're ready to take the High School Entrance Exam! Our review course goes over each part of the exam, as students rotate between Math and English reviews and includes test-taking tips and strategies to gain that competitive edge!

Our review course will be held in our socially distant classrooms and is led by St. Mary's faculty.

The cost for the review course is \$100, and you can sign up here: <https://smhlancers.org/register-for-hspt/>

Saturday, November 21st from 8:00 to 12:00 p.m.

High School Entrance Exam (HSPT) – for 8th grade students

All students looking to become a Lancer and member of the Class of 2025 must register to take the High School Entrance Exam with us. Students' exam scores also help us determine how to allocate scholarships. You can register for just the exam or the exam and review course here: <https://smhlancers.org/register-for-hspt/>

Various Dates in October – December

Lancer For a Day Program – for 8th grade students

Spend a school day with us! Sit in on classes, walk the halls – become a Lancer! Spots are limited and precautions will be taken in order to ensure the safety of our students and guests. Head here for more info: <https://smhlancers.org/shadow-days/>

Various Dates October – December

Private Tours

Schedule a tour of our campus with our Dean of Student Life & Admissions – Mrs. Drabik! She will be thrilled to show you around and answer questions. She can be reached at <mailto:adrabik@smhlancers.org>.

We have taken and will continue to take the proper precautions and measures to ensure the safety of all of our guests, students, and staff at this time. However, we understand that some prospective families might be uncomfortable with in-person visits. Contact Andrea Drabik, Dean of Student Life & Admissions so that we can work together to create a plan that works best for you!