

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 13 DECEMBER 9, 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

It is hard to believe that Christmas time is upon us! Please remember that if you are planning on traveling out of state, that upon your return, you must quarantine for 3 days then take a COVID 19 test on the 4th day and test negative. We are following Gov. Cuomo's state travel quarantine restrictions. The only exception to this would be if you are traveling from a neighboring state. We must be vigilant in our efforts to keep everybody safe and healthy.

We are taking part in a Christmas Giving Project. We are asking each class to bring in assigned food items to be donated to the Lancaster Youth Bureau and distributed to families in need. Thank you so much for your support in helping us to make somebody's Christmas a little brighter. Please find the flyer for the food items attached.

Next week we have some fun Christmas "special" clothing days planned. Please be sure to see the schedule of Christmas clothing fun that is coming home.

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 12/10 - St. Mary's Night in the Village
- 12/15 - K-8 Report Card Upload
- 12/17 - HSA Fudge/Jam/Coffee Sale Pick Up 2:30-6:00
- 12/17 - Panera Fund-raiser
- 12/21/20 - 1/1/21 - Christmas Recess
- 1/4 - Back to School
- 1/15 - 10:45 Early Dismissal
- 1/18 - NO SCHOOL MLK Jr. Day



BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

November 24, 2020 to November 30, 2020, the Scrip rebate profit earned towards tuition was \$1,383.16.

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

November Sales Total	Annual Rebate (3/16/20-3/15/21) Profit to Date
\$62,952.00	\$8,678.62

For the month of November we surpassed our goal by \$32,952.00!!

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/qJyojPaA4uhqpgdba>

Orders can be placed & will be filled while we are distance learning!

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.

A restock order of candy bars has been placed and all flavors are once again available!



Delivery/Pick up of the Jam/Fudge/Coffee Sale is Thursday December 17th. Grab your goodies then head to Panera for Dinner!

Current/Upcoming Fundraisers:

- ◇ Candy Bar Sale featuring Gertrude Hawk Chocolate
- ◇ Panera Bread Fundraiser: December 17th (Transit Road, Cheektowaga Location)
- ◇ Fudge/Jam/Coffee Pick up Dec. 17th

Thank you for your continued support!



Thank you to all that assisted with our Reindeer Lane Gift shop last Friday. We couldn't have done it without you! A big thank you to Jen C & Jen S for chairing this event and keeping the tradition alive here at SME!

Be a fundraising HERO!

Have you downloaded the RaiseRight App through the Scrip Program? If you haven't yet - now is the time!



Once you do, grab your self a Panera eCard and show your phone at the register on 12/17, no need to pull out your wallet!

First show the Panera Fundraising Flyer (attached electronically today), then your electronic gift card and voila! A double dose of support!

Make life even easier and snap a screenshot of the flyer today to have at your fingertips on Thursday, December 17th from 4:00-8:00pm!



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2021 CALENDAR CLUB FUNDRAISER

Our 1st annual Calendar Club has sold out!

SOLD OUT!

Thank you to everyone who supported this new fundraiser and good luck to you all on winning throughout 2021!

If you did not receive your calendar yet, you will by the end of the week (or a refund if we sold out before your order was received).

If you have any questions, please email the chair, Jessica Kulpit at jesskulpit@gmail.com

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 after-school/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.



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 CORNER

Don't forget that 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 last order for Christmas delivery was placed on Monday, December 7th.

Thank you all for a great holiday sales season!

The next order will be placed on December 14th, but we **do not** guarantee that the cards will arrive before December 18th.

Scrip sales will continue in the Rectory Monday - Friday from 8:00-3:00. Orders can be sent to school, placed online, dropped off at the Rectory any weekday, or left in the locked box in the vestibule 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 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



CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK

Beginning today we are collecting items to be assembled into mini food pantries which we will donate to the Lancaster Youth Bureau. Each classroom is assigned one food item. Our goal is to create 15 mini pantries and your participation will make that happen!



Monday begins
a week of
Christmas Festiveness!



See the flyer attached today for all the details but here is a snapshot of the fun:

Monday 12/14 - Dress in Red or Green, wear your favorite headwear

Tuesday 12/15 - A Grinch of a Day, dress in Green

Wednesday 12/16 - Winter Wonderland, dress in Blue & White

Thursday 12/17 - Silent Night, wear your favorite Christmas PJ's

Friday 12/18 - Wear your Christmas sweaters or t-shirt, or even a flannel!

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.

Do you have a knack for advertising? Then we need you! If you have any background or interest in helping in marketing/advertising our major events, please email kieriejewskis@smeschool.com. Planning for Mega Raffle will soon be underway!

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



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.

Did you know?? Our 8th graders collect cans & bottles at the following Cash for Cans locations:

480 Aurora Street

2500 George Urban Blvd

There is no need to wait while they count, simply label your bag with 'St. Mary's Elementary School', drop it off and they'll count and add the cans to our account.

Funds collected are used to cover costs incurred with graduation etc...

Thank you for your support!

STAY IN THE KNOW



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

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

Save the Date: 12/21 Christmas Break Begins

Save the Date: 1/4 School Resumes

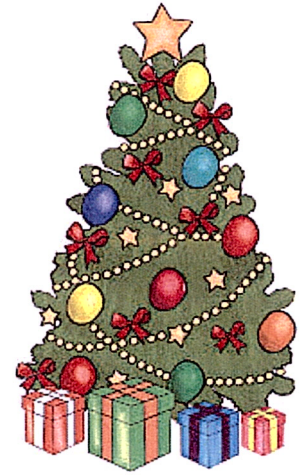
Save the Date: 1/15 10:45 Early Dismissal

Save the Date: 1/18 No School - MLK Jr. Day



Food Collection

2020 SME Christmas Giving Project



This season we are asking our students & staff to provide mini food pantries to families in need. **Due to COVID, many more families are in need of food - our most basic necessity.** Our mini food pantries will be donated to **The Lancaster Youth Bureau** to distribute to local families in need. Below is the specific list of items we would like to include in our mini food pantries. Each mini pantry will contain 1 each of the items below.

Our goal is to assemble at least 15 mini food pantries. That means we need at least 15 of each of the below items. More is ok too! *The items must not be expired (use by date).*

ALL DONATIONS ARE DUE BY WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH.

PREK O'GRADY	Stuffing Mix	3rd Grade BARTER	Spaghetti Sauce
PREK FRANCKEN	Macaroni & Cheese	4th Grade COOPER	Jar of Applesauce
PREK BARTKOWIAK	Box of Crackers	5th Grade ZAIDEL	Canned Fruit & Canned Cranberry Sauce
KDG MICHALEK	Package of Pasta	6th Grade OLEJNICZAK	Boxed Potatoes
KDG CRONMILLER	Package of Rice	7th Grade CHUDYK	Canned Tuna & Canned Mixed Vegetables
1st Grade MARRANO	Package of Oatmeal	7th Grade DEMBSKI	Dessert Mix
2nd Grade LAMB	Canned Beans & Canned Green Beans	8th Grade TRULIN	Box of Cereal
2nd Grade WEBER	Canned Corn & Canned Sweet Potatoes	8th Grade KELLY	Chicken Noodle Soup & Tomato Soup
3rd Grade BOOTH	Canned Tomatoes & Canned Carrots	OFFICE STAFF	Peanut Butter & Jelly

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY!

SME's Christmas Spirit Week!!

Monday-Friday December 14th - 18th, 2020

MONDAY 12/14

Wear your favorite holiday headwear!!

Santa hats, reindeer antlers, elf hats, festive headbands, etc.

Dress in RED or GREEN, you may wear jeans (no rips or tears).



TUESDAY 12/15

Mrs. Kwitowski's favorite character is the "Grinch". Dress up in all green or in Grinch t-shirts!

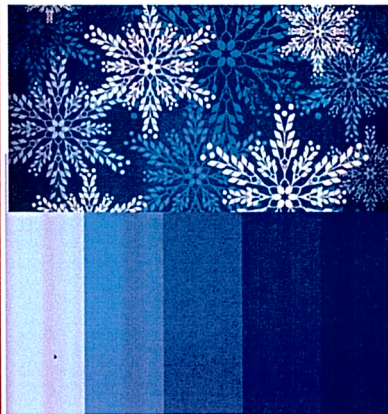
You may wear jeans (no rips or tears).



WEDNESDAY 12/16

Winter Wonderland dress in all shades of blue and white!

You may wear jeans (no rips or tears).



THURSDAY 12/17

Silent Night.. dream about sleeping in during Christmas vacation.

Wear your favorite Christmas Pajamas!! (no slippers, tank tops or shorts).



FRIDAY 12/18

Dress in your best Christmas sweater / T-shirt, or you may wear a flannel shirt.

You may wear jeans (no rips or tears).





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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We cordially invite you, friends, and family to:

ST. MARY'S NIGHT IN THE VILLAGE



December 3rd and 10th

5:00-9:00 p.m.

- * Shop Local!*
- * Support our neighbors!*
- * Come see the new & improved Village of Lancaster & West Main Street Project!*

*Starring Santa &
enjoy Christmas carols by members of
Varsity Chorus!*

Featuring:

*Bloomsbury Toy Shoppe • Dark Forest Chocolate • Furry Friends •
Gilded Maple • Josie's on Central • Juls & Jane • Lancaster Broadway Deli
Lancaster Coffee Co. • Lilly Belle Meads • Long Weekend • Purely Pets
The New York Store • Twin Village Music*