

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 30 MAY 12, 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

Congratulations to all our grade 3 students who have made their First Holy Communion.

Just a couple of reminders. First, please remember that for the health and safety of everybody in the building, we are still not allowing in visitors. This also means the parents that are picking up their child from our afterschool program. You must continue to just ring the bell and wait for one of the afterschool teachers to bring your child out. Please do not attempt to come into the building to get your child. We have been doing well with all our COVID procedures, let us not give up now. Secondly, in observance of Juneteenth, we will not be open on June 18th.

If you have not purchased your Mega Raffle ticket yet or would just like another shot at \$30,000, please mail your check (\$100/ticket made out to St. Mary's) to 1 St. Mary's Hill, Lancaster, NY 14086, and your tickets will be sent home with your child or mailed to you if you prefer. Payment is also accepted via Venmo or Paypal - contact Mary Kate or Steve DeMarzio by calling (716) 253-7880 or emailing megaraffle@smeschool.com

If you have not turned in your registration packet, please fill out the information and return the packet as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding registration, do not hesitate to call our office.

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski

MAY CROWNING 5/14

Our new bishop, Bishop Michael Fisher, is coming to pray with us!

This Mass, led by our 3rd graders, will take place outdoors. Although we will be outdoors, we are unable to open it up to the public. We appreciate your understanding.

Please have your child bring a blanket/towel to sit on.

Additionally, please have your child bring in flowers to place in vases at our Mary Shrine.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **5/13** - Ascension Thursday Mass, 8:30
- **5/14** - May Crowning Mass, 8:30
- **5/17** - \$ Dress Down for a Cause - PKU
- **5/19** - Progress Report Upload
- **5/28** - **NO SCHOOL**
- **5/31** - **NO SCHOOL**
- **6/4** - Christian Witness Mass (May & June), 8:30
- **6/11 - 10:45 Early Dismissal**
- **6/11** - Mega Raffle
- **6/18: NO SCHOOL - Juneteenth**
- **6/21 - 10:45 Early Dismissal**
- **6/22 - 1:00 Early Dismissal, Last day of School**
- **6/23** - Graduation Ceremonies: Pre-K (9, 10 & 11 am), Kinder (12 & 1pm), 8th Gr. (4pm)

BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

April 1 - April 30, 2021

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

<u>April Sales Total</u>	<u>% Monthly Sales Goal</u>
\$19,520.00	65%
<u>April Rebate Profit</u>	<u>% Monthly Profit Goal</u>
\$992.86	66%
<u>Sales Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Rebate Year-to-Date</u>
\$25,345.00	\$1,291.49

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

CANDY BAR SALE:

Expenses: (\$7766.79)
Deposits: \$11042.00
Profit/(Loss): \$3266.24

candybarsale@smeschool.com.
All flavors are \$1/bar, \$48/box.

Electronic Order form:
<https://forms.gle/qJyoyPaA4uhqpgdbA>

SCHOOLSTORE.COM:

Total Profit to date: \$386.28

This is an ongoing fundraiser, every purchase through the site earns us money!

MEGA RAFFLE

As of May 10th 845 tickets have been sold for Mega Raffle 2021 and there are only **155** tickets remaining – get yours before they're gone!

A letter with information about the Virtual Raffle went home with the NewsNotes on May 5th, and a copy is attached to the electronic version of today's as well. We hope to be back in full swing with our in-person event in 2022!

Without the live event, additional revenue from the evening will be lost, and so it is paramount that we sell all 1,000 tickets. We need the help of our school families and we appreciate everyone's efforts, especially during these trying times. So far, **368** 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 encouraging 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.

We are excited to announce a contest to help boost the sale of the remaining tickets! There will be a prize for the family that sells the most tickets, as well as a prize for the classroom with the highest total of ticket sales*. The contest will end on Friday, May 21st, and so you have plenty of time to participate! *All tickets sold to date will be included in the count. Prize details will be announced at a later date.

Purchasing tickets is easy!

Mail your check (\$100/ticket made out to St. Mary's) to 1 St. Mary's Hill, Lancaster, NY 14086 and your tickets will be sent home with your child, or mailed to you if you prefer.

Payment is also accepted via Venmo or Paypal - contact Mary Kate or Steve DeMarzio by calling (716) 253-7880 or emailing megaraffle@smeschool.com.



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.

Current/Upcoming Fundraisers:

- ◇ Candy Bar Sale featuring Gertrude Hawk Chocolate
- ◇ Popcorn Fundraiser 6/19

We have an exciting opportunity to raise funds for our school! Wal-Mart (Transit & William) is allowing us to set up at their location on Saturday, June 19th from 9am-6pm to sell Carl's Popcorn. We will receive 50% profit from this sale!

We are in need of families to help work the popcorn stand! Setting up from 8:00-9:00, and then the duration of the sale. If you are able to help, please use the following link:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4CADA923A2FF2-carls>

Questions can be directed to Kristie May (hsa@smeschool.com or 998-6504).

Thank you for your continued support!

CARL'S POPCORN FUNDRAISER

As seen at Kate's Country Cousins!



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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

Scrip sales will continue in the Rectory Mon. - Fri. from 9:00-3:00. 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.

Feel free to reach out with any questions: scrip@smeschool.com.

The total family tuition credit earned in the 4th quarter (December 15, 2020 – March 22, 2021) was \$2,202.49, and these funds were applied directly to the tuition accounts of families utilizing the program. The next quarterly tuition credit report will be run on June 15, 2021. ***There are thousands of dollars in tuition credit available to you!***

Gift card updates:

* NEW BRAND ALERT! Scrip now has Whole Foods gift cards, which offer a 3% rebate and Instacart gift cards, which offers 4%!
* If you purchase Kohl's gift cards online, be sure to select the option with (SME) after the denomination to get the 5% rebate. Otherwise, the rebate is only 4%.

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

Please return your Scrip envelope for reuse & online ordering.

SME ALUMNI

With a solid foundation from SME, we are proud to receive the quarterly Honor Roll/Deans list announcements for our students that have gone onto area Catholic High Schools. For the 3rd Quarter:

Sacred Heart:

(9th) Isabella D & Reese M.
(10th) Molly K. & Gabriella P.
(11th) Jocelyn J., Nicole J., Blaire K., Rachel M., Lainie S.;
(12th) Olivia D., Olivia H., Lauren M., Danna M., Hanna M.

St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute:

(10th) Blake G., Evan G.
(11th) Joseph K. & Andrew J.
(12th) Nick W.

St. Mary's High School:

(9th) Cole B., Luke B., Colin C., David D.
(10th) Magdalene D., Kaylyn O., Timothy C., Annabella P., Andrew U., Tyler W., Paige W.
(11th) Ryan K., Aiden M., Eric R., Aloise W.
(12th) **Valedictorian:** Alyssa O.
Sean B., Ben H., Lillian M., Nicole N., Allison S., Makenna W., Mckenzie W.

READY SET READ

The **Ready, SET, Read** event is for students in grades Pre-K through Grade 3 and includes books, games & activities!

Our RSR reading challenge starts on Monday 5/17 for students in grades Pre-K - Gr. 3!

For every 20 minutes read: cut out, sign & send in one ticket (coming home today). Additional ticket sheets are available anytime from your teacher! 1 ticket = 1 bead for your classroom bucket. The heaviest classroom bucket wins a prize! The challenge ends Wednesday June 9th!

The **Battle of the Books** is a trivia based team competition for **grades 4-8** based on the books on our book list.

The events will take place during the school day on June 11th.

4th & 5th Grade List:	6-8 Grade Book List:
- The Indian in the Cupboard	- Nuts to You
- The Year of the Dog	- Restart
- Crenshaw	- Okay for Now

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) - *Volunteers are no longer needed for this event*

Golf Tournament (July 26, 2021)

Fall Fest (Autumn 2021) - *This event is 'under construction'! Keep your eye on the NewsNotes for more information which will be coming out soon!*

SCRIP (year round) - Coordinator position

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/qJyojPaA4uhqpqdbA>

Please feel free to contact the candy bar team at:
candybarsale@smeschool.com
if you...

- Have any questions
- Need the order link emailed

Boxes contain 48 bars and cost just \$1 per bar.

The electronic order form has been updated to reflect flavors which are still available.

Thank you for your continued support of our sale!

Your candy bar team,
Cheryl Barber & Amanda Kuhn

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.

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).

SMHS OPEN BASKETBALL

St. Mary's High School JV basketball coach along with Mr. Wipperman invite all 6/7/8th grade girls to open basketball on Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:00.

The first open gym is this Sunday 5/16.



GOLF TOURNAMENT

When: Monday, July 26th

Where: Lancaster Country Club – NEW VENUE!

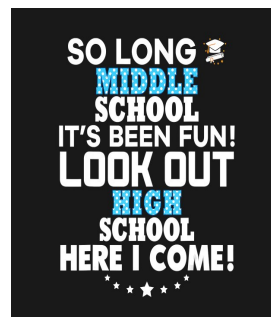
Tournament information & raffle tickets went out 3/10. The flyer is also available on the NewsNote tab of our website.

8TH GRADE

We are finalizing plans for the 8th grade field trip/fun day & will share those details as soon as possible!

The middle school exam schedule has been shared with all students.

Graduation is set for Wednesday, June 23rd @ 4:00. More details to come!



STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: 5/14 May Crown-ing

Save the Date: 5/17 Dress Down for a Cause: Wear Blue for PKU \$1

Save the Date: 5/19 Progress Report upload (Gr. K-8)

Save the Date: 5/28 & 5/31 No School

Save the Date: 6/11 10:45 Early Dismissal

ST MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086-2033
www.smeschool.com

Phone: (716) 683-2112
Fax: (716) 683-2134
“...visible examples of gospel living”

May 1, 2021

Re: Mega Raffle Drawing Update

Dear Mega Raffle Supporter:

We are grateful for the patience of our valued ticket holders as we have navigated the best way to run the event in this truly unprecedented time. The health and safety of our families here at St. Mary's is our #1 concern. Due to the current COVID-19 mandates, and uncertainty of when restrictions will be lifted, this year's drawing will again be virtual – with some exciting additions! We hope to be back in full swing with our in-person event in 2022!

In lieu of being able to offer food and beverages the evening of the drawing, we have added ten (10) additional \$100 cash prizes to the drawing, and we are also holding the following virtual raffles:

- Theme Baskets (1 sheet/\$5, 5 sheets/\$20) (*26 tickets per sheet*)
- Green 50/50 Raffle (10 tickets/\$5, 30 tickets/\$10)
- Gold 50/50 Raffle (10 tickets/\$5, 30 tickets/\$10)
- Buffalo Bills Jersey signed by Ed Oliver in display box (1 ticket/\$2, 3 tickets/\$5)
- Raffle Package Deal: 1 Theme Basket sheet, 10 tickets for each 50/50, 3 tickets for the Bills Jersey (\$15)

Pictures of the baskets and their corresponding numbers will be available for viewing on the school website:

www.smeschool.com from Saturday, May 15th through Thursday, June 11th, and a printed copy will be available upon request. Tickets can be purchased for the raffles by mailing or dropping off your payment to:

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

Please use the attached sheet to select which raffle(s) you would like to be entered into, as well as the basket numbers that you prefer (if you choose). All raffle ticket orders must be received by 3:00 PM on Thursday, June 10th.

All raffle selections will be recorded and posted on the school and church websites. Winners will also be contacted to arrange for pickup.

We are truly appreciative of your understanding and thank you for your continued support of St. Mary's!

Sincerely,

Mary Kate & Steve DeMarzio

Mary Kate & Steve DeMarzio
Mega Raffle Chair Couple

Virtual Raffle Order Form

Please make your selections for the virtual raffles below and mail or drop your payment off to:

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

All raffle ticket orders must be received by Thursday, June 10th.

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Theme Baskets: # of sheets _____ Total \$ _____

Please list basket number preferences below, unless you would like us to select for you.

Green 50/50: # of tickets _____ Total \$ _____

Gold 50/50: # of tickets _____ Total \$ _____

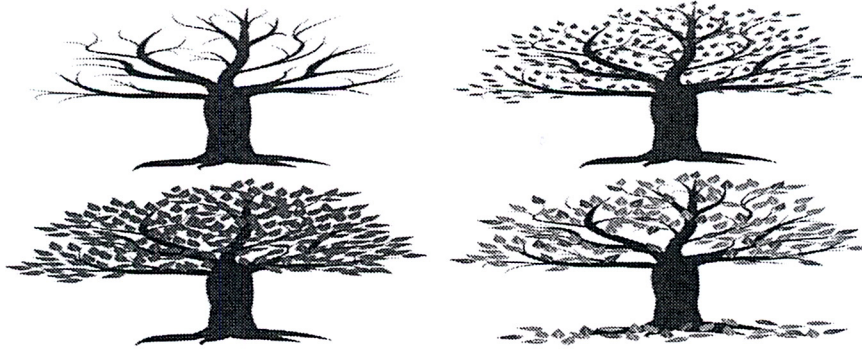
Bills Jersey: # of tickets _____ Total \$ _____

Package Deal: # of packages _____ Total \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____



If you have any questions, please email megaraffle@smeschool.com or call (716) 253-7880.



Dear SME Students and Parents:

Help your class win in the Ready, SET, Read Classroom Reading Challenge! For every 20 minutes read by a student, or a parent to the student, one bead will be added to your classroom's bucket. At the Ready, SET, Read event on Friday, June 11th, the three classes that have the heaviest buckets, will win classroom prizes! Because class sizes vary, we will determine the average number of minutes read by the student in class. The winning classes will be the ones that have the highest average of minutes read per student. The challenge starts on Monday, May 17th. Starting on Monday, May 17th, for every 20 minutes read, cut out and have a parent sign one of the attached tickets. When you give completed tickets to your teacher you'll get a bead dropped into your classroom's bucket. The last day to hand in the tickets is Wednesday, June 9th. If you run out of tickets, tell your teacher and they will send more home.

If you have any questions regarding this event, please email the SET committee at: set@smeschool.com

Happy Reading!

Ready, SET, Read! Committee School Effectiveness Team (SET)

Reading Through 4 Seasons Classroom Reading Challenge

Ready, SET, Read Day Friday, June 11th.

During School Time

✓K

Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket



CLASSROOM READING CHALLENGE

My child read for 20 minutes.

Parent's Signature: _____

Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket

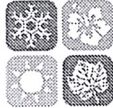


CLASSROOM READING CHALLENGE

My child read for 20 minutes.

Parent's Signature: _____

Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket
CLASSROOM READING CHALLENGE



My child read for 20 minutes.

Parent's Signature: _____

Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket



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My child read for 20 minutes.

Parent's Signature: _____

Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket



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Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket



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Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket



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Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket

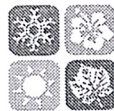


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Parent's Signature: _____

Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket



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Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket



CLASSROOM READING CHALLENGE

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Parent's Signature: _____

Ready, SET Read! Reading Ticket



CLASSROOM READING CHALLENGE

My child read for 20 minutes.

Parent's Signature: _____

KK