

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 31 MAY 19, 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

This past Friday, we celebrated our May Crowning Mass. We were blessed that Bishop Mike could join us in our celebration. It was a beautiful day and a beautiful mass. This coming Friday, our 8th graders will be celebrating their Hope Ribbon Mass.

If your child is currently receiving services from Lancaster, you must request a continuance of those services by June 1st. Attached is a form for you to use and send to Lancaster. You will just need to fill in the yellow highlighted areas. Please forward SME a copy of it for our records.

Tickets are going quick for our Mega Raffle event to be held on June 11th. 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 megaffle@smeschool.com.

We still have some openings for the 21/22 school year. 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



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 5/19 - Progress Report Upload
- 5/21 - 8th Grade Hope Ribbon Mass, 8:30
- 5/28 - NO SCHOOL
- 5/31 - NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
- 6/4 - Christian Witness Mass (May & June), 8:30
- 6/10 - School Mass, 8:30
- 6/11 - 10:45 Early Dismissal, Ready SET Read & Battle of the Books
- 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.

April Sales Total	% Monthly Sales Goal
\$19,520.00	65%

April Rebate Profit	% Monthly Profit Goal
\$992.86	66%

Sales Year-to-Date	Rebate Year-to-Date
\$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.

Please send in outstanding payments by 6/1.

SCHOOLSTORE.COM:

Total Profit to date: \$386.28

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

MEGA RAFFLE

There are only 128 tickets remaining for Mega Raffle 2021 as of May 14th – 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 was attached to the electronic version of the 5/12 NewsNote. We hope to be back in full swing with our in-person event in 2022!

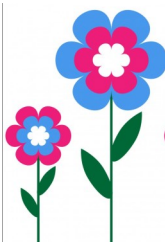
Our Theme Baskets can be viewed here: https://www.smeschool.com/mega_raffle_2021

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, 385 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.

Don't forget about the ticket sales contest! 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 this Friday, May 21st, and so there is still time to participate! *All tickets sold to date will be included in the count. Prize details will be announced at a later date.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the families that donated for the basket raffles for this year's event. We plan to have the pictures of the available items posted on the school website by Saturday, May 15th.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mary Kate DeMarzio at megaffle@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:

◇ 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!

CDC MASK GUIDELINES

In an announcement by Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo yesterday, the state will adopt the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's eased mask-wearing guidance for fully vaccinated people, which allows them to stop wearing masks outdoors in crowds and in most indoor settings.

However, according to the announcement, **masks will continue to be required in** public transportation, nursing homes, prisons, **schools** and health care facilities.

All SME employees, students, and visitors will continue to be required to wear masks in accordance with the NYS requirements and the district's health and safety plan. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

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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.

MAY CROWNING



Check out our Facebook Page for more pictures & a link to the mass!

No Facebook account?

No problem!

You can access our page via our school website.

Every post we make is available at the bottom of the home page.



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



We currently have just 48 BARS of candy left in the following flavors:

Coconut Custard, Dark, Milk

Bars are available in any quantity with pre-payment.

Please submit outstanding candy bar payments by 6/1.

If you are unsure of your balance, please feel free to contact us at candybarsale@smeschool.com.

We appreciate your participation and support of our sale & school!

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).

ST. FRANCIS BASKETBALL CAMP



Please see the flyer attached electronically today for information about a basketball camp offered by St. Francis HS for students who will be entering grades 5-8 in the fall.

SUMMER MATH CAMP

The diocese is hosting a Summer Math Camp that brings math to life!

This camp is offered to students in Grades K - 6!

Attached electronically today is a flyer that includes a QR code that connects to a short inspiring video to give a sense of what the camp is about. **Registration ends June 1!**

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.

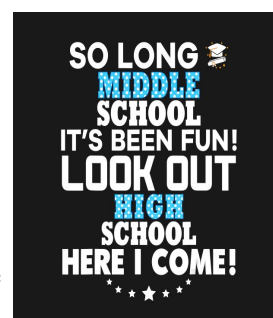
8TH GRADE

Hope Ribbon Mass is Friday 5/21!

Our 8th Grade fun day is set for Friday, June 4th!

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

Save the Date: 5/21 Hope Ribbon Mass, 8:30am

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

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

Save the Date: 6/23 Pre-K, K & 8th Grade Graduations

From: **Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo**

Date: Mon, May 17, 2021 at 6:37 PM

Subject: NYS Coronavirus Update: State to Adopt CDC Mask Guidance Starting Wednesday

To: Kim Kwitowski <kwitowskik@smeschool.com>



May 17, 2021.

Dear Kim,

Last week, the CDC announced new guidance on mask use and social distancing for fully vaccinated individuals, and beginning Wednesday, May 19, New York State [will adopt](#) the new guidance. **Until more New Yorkers are fully vaccinated, pre-K to 12 schools, public transit, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, nursing homes, and health care settings will continue to follow State's existing COVID-19 health guidelines.** New Yorkers have worked hard over the past year to keep others safe and that has paid off and we are ecstatic to take this next step in the reopening of our beautiful state. The people of New York and visitors alike should take solace in the lifting of mask requirements, but be respectful of those who may still feel safest wearing their mask in public. Business owners can establish policy within the broad framework as they see best. It's a great milestone and yet another incentive to get vaccinated if you haven't already.

Address
City, State Zip
Phone: Email:
May 19, 2021

Mr. John Armstrong, Director of Special Education
Lancaster Central School District
177 Central Ave.
Lancaster, NY 14086

Dear Director of Special Education:

I am writing to request special education services during the 2021-2022 school year for our son/daughter, [child's name] ([Date of Birth]) who is receiving instruction at St. Mary's Elementary School which is located within your district boundaries. In accordance with subdivision 2-c of Section 3602-c of the New York Education Law, students with disabilities who attend nonpublic schools are eligible to receive special education services from the school district in which their school is located. We would like to have services provided to [child's name] in accordance with his/her IESP currently on file with the school district.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me/us at the above address.

Sincerely,

[Parent]

Cc: Mrs. Kwitowski
St. Mary's Elementary School Principal

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.

DO YOU KNOW THAT EVERYONE CAN BE A MATH VIP? COME TO SUMMER MATH CAMP TO VISUALIZE, INVESTIGATE AND PLAY WITH MATH

- EXPERIENCE MATH IN A NEW WAY THAT IS ENGAGING AND FUN!
- LEARN HOW THE BRAIN LEARNS MATHEMATICS.
- FOCUS ON REALLY UNDERSTANDING NOT JUST MEMORIZING.
- DEVELOP MATHEMATICAL THINKING AND REASONING SKILLS SO MATH MAKES SENSE.
- LOTS OF HANDS ON ACTIVITIES AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

Activities will be based on Mathematical Mindset series and youcubed program from Stanford University www.youcubed.org



Scan code for
video

Who: EVERYONE in Grades K-6

Class size will be limited to 12 students, Cost: \$200 for the 8 sessions

All students are expected to attend both weeks

Where: St. Christopher, Tonawanda

Where: St. Aloysius, Springville

When: July 6-9 and July 12-15

When: July 12-15 and July 19-22

9.00am-12.00pm:

9.00am-12.00pm:

Where: St. John the Baptist, Alden

Where: SS Peter and Paul, Williamsville

When: July 19-22 and July 26-29

When: August 2-5 and August 9-12

9.00am-12.00pm:

9.00am-12.00pm:

Registration:

<http://bit.ly/mathreg2021>



Scan here for
registration

ST. FRANCIS BASKETBALL CAMP

July 19th - July 23, 2021
8:30 am – 3:30 pm

**Open to boys entering the
5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th grade in the Fall of 2021.**

*Players will be in two divisions: JV (5th & 6th grade)
and Varsity (7th & 8th grade)*



- ✓ Learn skills & drills from St. Francis High School Coaches
- ✓ Different drills for each day in the following categories:
 - Shooting
 - Ball Handling
 - Passing & Catching
 - 1 on 1 Play
 - Footwork, Agility, Defensive Stance
 - Rebounding
- ✓ Develop and improve:
 - Speed
 - Agility
 - Explosiveness
 - Change of Direction

Fee: \$180.00

Includes a St. Francis reversible practice jersey, a custom St. Francis basketball and a pizza party on the last day of camp.

REGISTER ONLINE at stfrancishigh.org (Under the Athletics tab)



Call 716-627-1200 ext. 582 for more information.

REGISTER BY WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2021