

# NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 18 JANUARY 19, 2022

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

I hope that everyone had a restful long weekend. During the days off, I hope that you took some time to reflect as to why we had off on Monday and took the opportunity to reflect on MLK Jr.'s message of "freedom, equality, justice and love."

This Friday we will be inducting the newest members of our National Junior Honor Society. We are extremely proud of all our inductees! Congratulations.

God's Peace and Love,  
Mrs. Kwitowski



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **1/19** - Wild Card  
Wednesday - Wear animal print /zubas
- **1/20** - Team Up Thursday - Twinning Day
- **1/21** - Hey ey Friday - Wear your Bills Gear!
- **1/30** - Catholic Schools Week Begins
- **2/2** - Progress Report Upload: K-8
- **2/4** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- **2/9** - Spring Photo Day, Pre-K 3-8
- **2/21-2/25** - NO SCHOOL: Mid-Winter Recess

## SME'S MINI MAFIA MANIA



**WILD CARD WEDNESDAY:** Wear animal print / zubas

**TEAM UP AGAINST THE KC CHIEFS THURSDAY:** Twinning Day

**HEY EY FRIDAY:** Wear your Bills attire



## BY THE NUMBERS

### SCRIP:

Updated numbers will be available in next week's edition.

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

January Sales to Date: \$4,540.00

Annual Rebate Profit to Date  
(3/23-1/10/22): \$17,183.18

### CANDY BAR SALE:

Chocolate bars are just \$1.

Initial Order: \$7200.00  
(Deficit)/Profit: (\$3828.00)

Order Anytime:

<https://forms.gle/vfLmhrHoEG2PL8oG9>

Unless a specific cause is listed, such as STREAM fundraiser, all funds raised goes towards keeping down the tuition rate.

15% of all money coming into the school must come from fundraising.

If we do not fundraise enough, we do not have the funds to keep the tuition rate down.

## NURSE NOTES

The Covid guidelines appear to be changing weekly and we are doing our best to keep up with them! It is important to remind all that SME has to follow the guidelines set by the ECDOH, not the CDC.

If a student tests positive, regardless of vaccination status, a 5 day quarantine is required. Day 0 is the day of the positive test, if asymptomatic. If symptomatic, Day 0 begins the day symptoms started.

At this point, per the ECDOH, **negative** at home test results will not be accepted for early release from quarantine or for diagnostic purposes if a child is exhibiting symptoms associated with COVID-19.

**Positive** at home COVID-19 test results are accepted by the ECDOH and should be reported. Please call the COVID-19 Information Line at (716) 858-2929 or use the online reporting form (<https://www3.erie.gov/covid/form/form-to-report-a-positive-covid->). Acceptable COVID-19 tests to shorten quarantine include rapid NAAT (PCR) or antigen tests conducted and reported by a licensed laboratory.

Please stress with your child(ren) the importance of proper mask wearing & sanitizing. This new variant mimics cold symptoms and as such we must all be vigilant in our safety precautions. I will do my best to help all of you out, so please call with any questions. I want to continue to thank all of you for your understanding and patience.

Nurse Tara Salge  
[nurse@smeschool.com](mailto:nurse@smeschool.com)  
683-2112 x128



We are hosting a virtual open house for prospective new families on Tuesday 2/8. If you know of anyone who may be interested in our school (Pre-K or K - 8) please have them register and join us!  
<https://forms.gle/cWqUVvhQBrXUtY6Q8>



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## 2022-2023 REGISTRATION

We are in the process of updating the registration packet for the upcoming school year. As always, current SME families will receive their re-registration packet first.

We are hosting a virtual open house for prospective new families on Tuesday 2/8. If you know of anyone who may be interested in our school (Pre-K or K - 8) please have them register and join us for the open house! The link can be found on our Facebook page and school website.

Registration packets will be made available to the general public following that open house. Don't lose your spot, be sure to re-register right away!

## SME MEMORIES

Our Spring Picture Day is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9th.

Spring Pictures are optional, and as such, there will be no makeup/alternate day scheduled. Only students ordering a spring picture package will have their photo taken.

Our yearbook online order site is now open:

[inter-state.com/order](https://inter-state.com/order)  
Code: 63622B

Yearbook cost: \$13.00

Check payment & order forms will be coming out in March.



## 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

Do you still find yourself asking...

*What is SCRIP all about?*

*Why all the hype?*

*Is it worth the effort?*

Let me break it down:

**Hype:** Do love a discount? Purchasing SCRIP gives a discount on your tuition. Discounts are good.

**Effort:** What effort?! Simply send your order into school on Monday with your child and it will be forwarded to our SCRIP office located in the Rectory. Cards are ordered, filled & returned on Friday. If you are in need of a card right away you can always stop into the rectory (M-F, 9-3) and if it is in stock you'll walk out with it.

Changing your mindset from *gift* to *payment* cards opens up a world of possibility & rebates on your tuition!

Need food? From fast food to grocery, we've got a card for that!

New Clothes? Yep.

Medications? All of the local drug stores are on the list.

Do you actually have to give a gift? The possibilities are endless! Afterall, no one shops for you like you!

Stop pulling out your credit/bank card and grab a payment card instead!

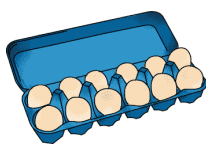
Achieve (self appointed) superstar status when you download the easy to use RaiseRight app!

Online orders can be paid via check through our coordinator or with any credit card.

For a complete list of participating retailers visit the shop with scrip website: <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Shop/Product/Browse>

If you have any questions, please email us at [scrip@smeschool.com](mailto:scrip@smeschool.com). We are here for you!

## FROM THE ART ROOM



Collection of Styrofoam egg cartons is year round at SME and we appreciate the donations!

## SCHOOLSTORE.COM

We are excited to be restarting our SchoolStore fundraiser at the end of the month.

With this easy program families are able to shop online and we receive a portion of the profit. Gift certificates can also be purchased for the classroom where teachers are able to shop for various additional resources for the students to use.

Information will be coming out at the end of the month with all the details!

## FUNDRAISING

In an effort to keep information at the forefront, a quick reprint of the message from Mrs. Kwitowski from November 17th...

Unless a specific cause is listed, such as STREAM fundraiser, all funds raised goes towards keeping down the tuition rate.

15% of all money coming into the school must come from fundraising.

If we do not fundraise enough, we do not have the funds to keep the tuition rate down.

Again, please contribute to the fundraisers that best suit you and your family.

## CALENDAR CLUB

Thank you to everyone who purchased a calendar for the 2022 Calendar Club! Prizes will be paid the first week of each month for the previous month (the first round of winners will receive their checks the first week of February for January), and the winning calendar numbers for each month will be posted on the school and parish websites.

If at any time you have any questions regarding this fundraiser, please contact Joe Magiera: [calendarclub@smeschool.com](mailto:calendarclub@smeschool.com).



## MEGA RAFFLE

Mega Raffle is our largest fundraiser, and so extremely vital to the financial success of St. Mary's.



Information on how to purchase and sell tickets will be sent out soon, so keep a look-out!

There are many volunteer opportunities available for various amounts of time (including work that can be done from home), and we also have open spots on the planning committee. If you are interested in joining our committee, or helping out with the event in any way, please contact Mary Kate DeMarzio at: [megaffle@smeschool.com](mailto:megaffle@smeschool.com).

Thank you to those that have already reached out to help. We will be in touch soon with more details!

## NURSE INFO



Nurse Tara is available Monday - Friday from 9:30am until 1:00pm and can be reached at:

[nurse@smeschool.com](mailto:nurse@smeschool.com)  
683-2112 x128

<https://www2.erie.gov/health/sites/www2.erie.gov/health/files/uploads/pdfs/COVID19TestingResourcesforStudentsinErieCounty.pdf>

## BISON FUND

Committed to its mission of making quality education accessible to all, the Bison Fund average scholarship award will be between \$1,500 and a maximum award of \$2,500 for the 2022-2023 school year.

As we welcome 2022, Bison Fund is currently accepting K-8 pre-applications for funding for the 2022-2023 school year. New families must complete a pre-application form electronically (online) on the Bison Fund website at [bisonfund.com](http://bisonfund.com). **The new family deadline is February 28, 2022.** Preference is NOT given to early applications, however applicants must apply by February 28th to be considered for the lottery. New families applying after the February 28, 2022 deadline will be placed on a waitlist.

All applicants will be notified of lottery results by email on March 1, 2022. If you're not chosen in the lottery, you can always reapply for the next school year.

Current families do not need to fill out a pre-application and will be emailed a link to complete the requalification process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cindy McDonald, program director at 716-854-0869 ext. 1 or [cmcdonald@bisonfund.com](mailto:cmcdonald@bisonfund.com).



## STAY IN THE KNOW



**Save the Date:** 1/31 Catholic Schools Week

**Save the Date:** 2/2 K-8 Progress Report Upload

**Save the Date:** 2/4 Christian Witness Mass

**Save the Date:**

**Save the Date:**





# BISON

## CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

A private scholarship fund providing tuition assistance for low-income families throughout the 8 counties of Western New York who want to enroll their children in private schools.

### BISON Scholarship Quick Facts:

- Average scholarship of \$1,500 and maximum award of \$2,500.
- Currently BISON has over 1,940 scholars in 81 different private schools across Western New York.
- Each family must contribute toward their child's private education.

### Income Eligibility Amounts:

Household Size	Total Income (Based on 2021 household income)
2	\$ 47,034
3	\$ 59,292
4	\$ 71,550
5	\$ 83,808
6	\$ 96,066
7	\$ 108,324
8	\$ 120,582

## STEP 1

Complete a **pre-application online at [bisonfund.com](https://bisonfund.com)** between **January 1, 2022 and February 28, 2022**.  
If you have any questions, you can call BISON at (716) 854-0869 ext. 1.

## STEP 3

If selected, complete the full application online. Enroll your child(ren) in the school of their choice and ask the school to complete the school commitment form.

## STEP 2

Watch for notification after the **BISON Lottery** is held on **March 1, 2022**. Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application to receive the scholarship. If you're not chosen, you will automatically be placed on the BISON waitlist.

## STEP 4

Once all the steps are completed, BISON will notify you of your scholarship amount. Watch for email notices to annually renew your BISON Scholarship in February of each year.



### BISON Contact Information:

Cindy McDonald, Program Director

(716) 854-0869 ext. 1

[cmcdonald@bisonfund.com](mailto:cmcdonald@bisonfund.com)



# BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

## FAQ FOR FAMILIES

More detailed information can be found on our website at [www.bisonfund.com](http://www.bisonfund.com)

### Who qualifies for a BISON K-8 scholarship?

Residents of the 8 counties of Western New York (WNY) with children entering K-8<sup>th</sup> grade with a total family income within the income eligibility scale. You may only apply for your biological or legal guardian children.

### How do new families apply?

New families must complete a pre-application form electronically (online) on our website at [bisonfund.com](http://bisonfund.com). **The new family deadline is February 28, 2022.** Preference is NOT given to early applications; however you must apply by 2/28 to be considered for the lottery. Families applying after the February 28, 2022 deadline will be placed on our waitlist.



### How are BISON scholarship recipients chosen?

Scholarships are awarded using a lottery system from all submitted pre-application forms on **March 1, 2022.** Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application in order to receive the scholarship.

### How do I know if I won the lottery?

All applicants will be notified of lottery results by email on **March 1, 2022.** If you're not chosen in the lottery you can always reapply for the next school year.



### I received a scholarship award email ... now what?

In your award email, there will be a link to complete your full application. Click on the link and follow the application steps. **The deadline to complete the application is April 30, 2022.** Please be sure to include all your income sources including your FEDERAL 1040 tax return, child support, business income, public assistance, food stamps, Social Security income, unemployment insurance, worker's compensation and financial assistance from family & friends. Select your school (a complete list can be found on our website) and contact the school to complete the school commitment form. After receipt of all the required documents, your scholarship will be calculated based on your household size and income, as well as tuition amount. You must renew annually to continue with BISON.



### I received an email that I'm on a waitlist ... now what?

Unfortunately, there are always more applicants than available funding. We keep waitlist names for the academic year hopeful that additional funding becomes available. If you are not taken off the waitlist, you will need to resubmit a pre-application next year to be considered.

### Why do families have to pay part of the tuition?

One key component of educational success is parental involvement. Making a financial sacrifice is a strong incentive to becoming and remaining, involved. BISON families are required to pay a minimum of \$500 each year.



Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

C/S/Z: \_\_\_\_\_

ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Oldest Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade/Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

School FamilyParishioner

Vendor	Denomination	Profit	QTY	Total
Grocery				
Tops	\$10	5.5%		\$
Tops	\$25	5.5%		\$
Tops	\$50	5.5%		\$
Tops	\$100	5.5%		\$
Instacart	\$25 / \$100	4%		\$
Restaurants				
Applebees	\$25 / \$50	8%		\$
Arby's	\$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Bob Evans	\$10 / \$25	10%		\$
Burger King	\$10	4%		\$
Carrabba's Italian Grill	\$25 / \$50	10%		\$
Cheesecake Factory	\$25	5%		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar	\$25 / \$50	11%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill	\$10 / \$25	10%		\$
Cold Stone Creamery	\$10	11%		\$
Cracker Barrel	\$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Dairy Queen	\$10	3%		\$
Dave & Buster's	\$25	13%		\$
Denny's	\$10	7%		\$
Domino's	\$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts	\$10 / \$25	3%		\$
Federal Meats	\$20	5%		\$
Fowler's Chocolates	\$20	40%		\$
Frank's Grille	\$25	20%		\$
Happy Dining/Happy Moments	\$25	8%		\$
IHOP	\$25	8%		\$
Little Caesar's	\$20	8%		\$
Moe's Southwest Grill	\$25	6%		\$
Olive Garden	\$25 / \$100	8%		\$
Outback Steak House	\$25 / \$50	10%		\$
P. F. Chang's	\$25 / \$100	8%		\$
Papa John's Pizza	\$10	8%		\$
Panera Bread	\$10 / \$25 / \$50	8%		\$
Pizza Hut	\$10	8%		\$
Qdoba	\$25	7%		\$
Red Lobster	\$25	8%		\$
Red Robin	\$25	8%		\$
Starbuck's	\$10 / \$25 / \$50	4.50%		\$
Subway	\$10 / \$50	4.50%		\$
Sonic	\$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Taco Bell	\$10 / \$25	5%		\$
TGIFriday's	\$25	9%		\$
Tim Horton's	\$5 / \$10 / \$25	5%		\$
Wendy's	\$10	6.50%		\$
Auto				
Advance Auto Parts	\$25 / \$100	7%		\$
Auto Zone	\$25	8%		\$
Delta Sonic SuperKiss	\$15	50%		\$
Exxon/Mobil	\$50 / \$250	1%		\$
Speedway	\$25/\$50/\$100	4%		\$
<del>Sumoco</del>	\$50 / \$250	Temporarily Unavailable		

Vendor	Denomination	Profit	QTY	Total
Retail				
Amazon	\$25/\$100	2%		\$
American Eagle	\$25	10%		\$
Apple Store/iTunes	\$15 / \$25 / \$100	5%		\$
Barnes & Noble	\$10/\$25/\$100	8%		\$
Bath & Body Works	\$10 / \$25	12%		\$
Bed, Bath & Beyond	\$25 / \$100	7%		\$
Best Buy	\$25/\$100/\$250	4%		\$
Cabela's	\$25 / \$100	10%		\$
Carter's	\$25	10%		\$
Children's Place	\$25	12%		\$
CVS Pharmacy	\$25 / \$100	6%		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods	\$25 / \$100	8%		\$
Disney	\$25/\$100/\$1,000	3%		\$
DSW Shoe Warehouse	\$25 / \$100	8%		\$
Express	\$25	10%		\$
Famous Footwear	\$25	8%		\$
Game Stop	\$25	3%		\$
Gap/Banana/Old Navy	\$25 / \$100	14%		\$
Hallmark	\$25	4%		\$
Home Depot	\$25 / \$100	4%		\$
Home Depot	\$500 / \$1,000	4%		\$
JCPenney	\$25 / \$100	5%		\$
Jo-Ann Fabrics	\$25	6%		\$
Journeys	\$25	10%		\$
Kohl's (SME)	\$10 / \$25	5%		\$
Kohl's (SME)	\$50 / \$100	5%		\$
LL Bean	\$25 / \$100	16%		\$
Land's End	\$25 / \$100	15%		\$
Lowe's	\$25/\$100/\$500	4%		\$
Macy's	\$25 / \$100	10%		\$
Michael's	\$25	4%		\$
New York Store	\$25	4%		\$
Office Depot/Office Max	\$25 / \$100	5%		\$
PetSmart	\$25	5%		\$
Pottery Barn	\$25 / \$100	8%		\$
Rite Aid	\$25 / \$100	4%		\$
RJ's Piano Tuning	\$95	25%		\$
Sally Beauty Company	\$25	12%		\$
Sears	\$25/\$100/\$250	4%		\$
Sephora	\$25	5%		\$
Shutterfly	\$25	9%		\$
Talbot's	\$25	13%		\$
Target	\$25 / \$50	2.50%		\$
Target	\$100 / \$250	2.50%		\$
T.J. Maxx/Marshall's/HomeGoods	\$25 / \$100	7%		\$
Ulta	\$25	6%		\$
Walgreen's	\$25 / \$100	5%		\$
Walmart	\$25 / \$50	2.50%		\$
Walmart	\$100 / \$250 / \$500	2.50%		\$
Total from front				\$
Total from back				\$
Grand Total				\$

ANY CARDS NOT IN STOCK WILL BE ORDERED THE NEXT MONDAY AND SENT HOME THAT FRIDAY

Backorders

Office Use Only

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Vendor</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Profit</i>	<i>QTY</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
Great Clips	\$25	8%		\$
Supercuts	\$25	8%		\$
Groupon.com	\$25	7%		\$
Overstock.com	\$25	8%		\$
Wayfair.com	\$100	6%		\$
Zappos.com	\$25 / \$100	8%		\$
Discover Gift Card - No activation fee	\$50/\$100/\$250	1.25%		\$
Visa Gift Card - No activation fee	\$50/\$100/\$250	1.25%		\$
Gift Card Wrapper - 10 pk	\$2	10%		\$
Cascading Card File	\$3	25%		\$

<i>Vendor</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Profit</i>	<i>QTY</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>Entertainment</b>				
AMC Theatres	\$25 / \$50	8%		\$
Fandango	\$25	4%		\$
Regal	\$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Simply Certificates	\$10 / \$25	10%		\$
<b>Scrip Certificates</b>				
SME - Write in Amount	\$			\$
SME - Write in Amount	\$			\$
SME - Write in Amount	\$			\$
SME - Write in Amount	\$			\$
SME - Write in Amount	\$			\$

**Write in Orders**

Other retailers are available on the Great Lakes master list, available on the school and church websites.

You may add your selections from those vendors below.

School Website: [www.smeschool.com](http://www.smeschool.com)

Parish website: [www.stmarysonthehill.org](http://www.stmarysonthehill.org)

<i>Vendor</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Profit</i>	<i>QTY</i>	<i>Total</i>
				\$
				\$
				\$
				\$
				\$

<i>Vendor</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Profit</i>	<i>QTY</i>	<i>Total</i>
				\$
				\$
				\$
				\$
				\$

Total from back (enter on front) \$

**Please make all checks and money orders payable to St. Mary's Elementary School.**

**SEND HOME ORDER:** My signature below authorizes St. Mary's Elementary School to release my Scrip order to my child, \_\_\_\_\_ to be delivered in his/her backpack. I understand that St. Mary's Elementary School will not be held accountable for any lost or stolen certificates occurring during the transportation of said certificates from school to home.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PICK UP ORDER:** Do not release my Scrip order to my child. ***I will pick up the order in the school office.***

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN UP FOR ONLINE ORDERING:** I would like to sign up to order and pay for gift cards online. Please use the email address below.

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_