

# NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 16 JANUARY 5, 2022

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

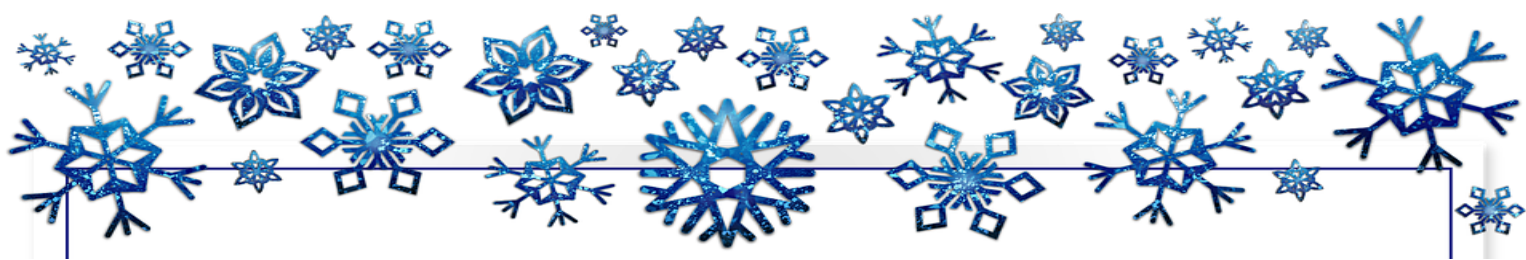
Happy Wednesday!

I hope that everybody had a Merry Christmas and was able to take some time to relax. This Friday will be our Christian Witness Mass.

With the positivity rate being high and still on the rise, I ask that you continue to follow the COVID safety protocols that are in place. Please continue to reach out to our nurse if you have questions regarding a sick child. I know that this has been going on for a long time and everybody is tired of the protocols, but hopefully by following them we can keep everyone as safe as possible until we can go back to "normal".

The New Year is a time to celebrate past accomplishments and to look forward to future successes. I wish you a year full of blessings, good health, and much success. Have a wonderful, and prosperous New Year!

God's Peace and Love,  
Mrs. Kwitowski



## BY THE NUMBERS

### SCRIP:

From 12/14/21 to 1/3/22, the Scrip rebate profit earned towards tuition was \$603.86

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: \$80.90

Annual Rebate Profit to Date (3/23-1/3/22): \$17,060.34

For December, we surpassed our monthly sales goal by \$26,165!!

### CANDY BAR SALE:

Chocolate bars are just \$1.

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

Order Anytime:

<https://forms.gle/vfLmhrHoEG2PL8oG9>

### CALENDAR CLUB:

See page 2 for details

### 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS:

Prizes drawn 12/25/2021 - 1/5/2022

Winners are listed on page 2

### FOOTBALL FRENZY:

1 more week of prizes to go!

The past two weekends of winners are listed on page 2

## NURSE NOTES

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 10-day quarantine is required. Day 0 is the day of the positive test, if asymptomatic. If symptomatic, Day 0 begins the day symptoms started.

The 5-day quarantine that was put in place by NY State, is **only** in effect for essential workers at this time, not students.

We have been notified that DOH is not able to keep up with contact tracing. Please do your best at letting people know if they are considered a close contact.

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.

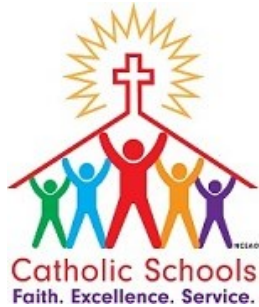
I will do my best to help all of you out, so please call with any questions. I want to continue to thank all of you for your understanding and patience.

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

## JANUARY

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 1/7 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 1/14 - 10:45 Early Dismissal, No Afterschool Care
- 1/17 - **NO SCHOOL** - MLK Jr. Day
- 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



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## EARLY DISMISSAL TRANSPORTATION

As a reminder there is no early dismissal bus transportation for the following districts:

Akron, Alden & Cheektowaga

Please be sure that someone is here to pick up your child(ren) for our 10:45 early release on Friday, 1/14.

There is NO Afterschool Care available on 10:45 dismissal days as these are our professional development days for our teachers.

## WINTER CLOSURES

In the event of the success of flushed ice cubes, inside out & backwards pajamas, shaking snow globes and other such traditions work you will know with:

- An email from Mrs. Kwitowski
  - Good old fashion alphabetical scroll on the local news stations
- Please keep in mind...
- If Lancaster Central is closed, so are we
  - We will be listed as St. Mary's Elementary School



## 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

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, only 36% of our SME families took advantage of this great program, with the rebate earnings coming directly off their tuition bill. Of that 36%... 13 families earned a rebate between \$100-\$200

5 families earned between \$201-\$300  
1 families earned between \$301-\$400  
1 family earned between \$501-\$600  
1 family earned between \$601-\$700  
1 family earned between \$800-\$900!!

These tuition rebates are available to ALL school families, and your extended family and friends are welcome to help as well. If you are not currently using the program, reach out to us to get signed up today!

All Scrip sales are in the Rectory Monday-Friday from 9:00-3:00. **Orders MUST be in by 10:00 on Monday to be included in the weekly order, or they will be ordered the following week, including online orders.** As stated in the information packet, if you send your order into school with your child, your order will be sent home as soon as it has been filled (some cards may need to be backordered). Feel free to reach out with any questions: scrip@smeschool.com

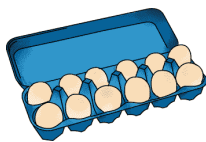
Gift card updates:

- Dairy Queen, Sunoco and Gift Card Wrapper Gift cards are temporarily unavailable.
- If you purchase Kohl's gift cards online, please be sure to select the option with (SME) after the denomination to get the 5% rebate. Otherwise, the rebate is only 4%.
- If you purchase Tops gift cards online, please be sure to select the **Tops Markets** option, not just Tops, to get the 5.5% rebate. Otherwise, the rebate is only 4%.

*If you have any questions, please email us at scrip@smeschool.com. Thank you for your support of the Scrip program!*

*\*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!*

## FROM THE ART ROOM



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

## 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. We are looking for a new chair for this event. If you are interested in learning more about it, please reach out to our Events Coordinator, Mary Kate DeMarzio at marykate@stmarysonthehill.org.

## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The 12 Days of Christmas Raffle was a hit, with **1,553** tickets sold! Thank you to everyone who took part in this new fundraiser. Daily cash prizes were awarded December 25, 2021-January 5, 2022, and the winners are listed below. Checks will be mailed out this week. If you have any questions, please contact the chairs: Amanda Barton & Jenny Sparmo at Jennifersparmo@gmail.com, or (716) 713-0719.



Prize Dates	12/25	12/26	12/27	12/28	12/29	12/30	12/31	1/1	1/2	1/3	1/4	1/5
Prize Amounts	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$250	\$300	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$5,000
Winning Ticket #s	#0694	#6045	#6067	#5910	#9739	#1099	#3253	#5830	#6728	#0541	#8807	#5200

## MEGA RAFFLE

The time has come to begin planning for Mega Raffle 2022!



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.

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

## FOOTBALL FRENZY

**The winners for 12/12/21 were:**

Ticket 1421 - \$50, Ticket #71 - \$30, Ticket #87 - \$10, and Ticket #1473 - \$10. Congratulations to our first round of winners!

**The winners for 12/19/21 were:**

Ticket #19 - \$40, Ticket #54 - \$40, and Ticket #36 - \$20. Congratulations to our second round of winners!

The winnings continue through Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>.

Winning ticket numbers are posted weekly online and winners are notified by mail. The results can be checked at [www.footballsweeps.com](http://www.footballsweeps.com), where you can enter the access code from your ticket.

Questions can be directed to Melissa Mitchell at: melissa.mitchell514@gmail.com or (716) 465-9846.



## 8TH GRADE INFO

If your child has applied for a catholic high school, 1st semester report cards were sent out on behalf of your student provided a release form was on file.

I have reached out to families directly if a high school has contacted me for information and I am without a signed release form. Please refer to the NewsNote archive on the school website if you have any questions as far back as our 1st NewsNote.

Information has gone out to all 8th grade families regarding ordering your child's cap & gown. Please take a moment to review that email from Mr. Olejniczak.



## JESSE TREE

Thank you to all the families, students, and staff of SME for your donations to our Jesse Tree Food Drive.

Together we collected a total of 2197 items to be donated to the Trinity Food Pantry located at 5448 Broadway in Lancaster.

The generosity of our school family is simply overwhelming. A sincere thank you to everyone who helped make this endeavor such a huge success.



## NURSE INFO



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

nurse@smeschool.com  
683-2112 x128

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

## STAY IN THE KNOW



**Save the Date:** 1/7 Christian Witness Mass, join us virtually

**Save the Date:** 1/14 10:45 Early Dismissal

**Save the Date:**

**Save the Date:**

**Save the Date:**