

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 7 OCTOBER 20, 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

October 25-29 is Red Ribbon Week. During this week we participate in different daily themes to remind students of the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and bullying. A detailed list of the daily themes is included in this NN.

I wanted to remind parents who are dropping their K-8 child(ren) off in the morning that students need to be dropped off by 8:00am. We begin announcements by 8:10 and the students, as well as the teachers doing the morning checks, need to be in their classrooms by this time. This drop off time will be even more critical with winter coming and the extra time that will be needed for the children to take off their boots and to be ready to start their day. I ask that you please make every effort to have your child(ren) dropped off by 8:00am.

We encourage your child to dress as a Saint for our Mass on Monday 11/1.

Coming together is a beginning,
staying together is progress,
and working together is success.
~ Henry Ford

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski

RED RIBBON WEEK



We will celebrate Red Ribbon Week
October 25-29th!

Be Happy. Be Brave. Be Drug Free!

- Monday:** Wear Red to kick off Red Ribbon Week
- Tuesday:** Wear your favorite sports apparel to team up against drugs
- Wednesday:** Wear a neon shirt to show your too bright for drugs
- Thursday:** Wear camo because drugs can't find me
- Friday:** Wear a Halloween shirt to scare off drugs

Please remember:

- Those not participating in the themed dress up days must wear your school uniform.
- Jeans may be worn this week but must be free or rips/tears. No leggings of any kind may be worn.

See all the details in the flyer coming home today!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **10/25-29** Red Ribbon Week
- **10/27** - Progress Report Upload: K-8
- **11/1** - All Saints Day Mass, Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- **11/11 - NO SCHOOL:** Veterans Day
- **11/12 - 10:45 Early Dismissal:** P/T Conferences
- **11/24-26 - No School:** Thanksgiving Recess
- **11/29** - 1:00 Early Dismissal: Staff PD
- **12/3** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- **12/8** - Immaculate Conception Mass, 8:30
- **12/15** - Report Card Upload, Gr K-8

BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

From 10/13/21 to 10/18/21, the Scrip rebate profit earned towards tuition was **\$151.20.**

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

October	Annual Rebate Profit to Date
<u>Sales to Date:</u> \$19,727.00	<u>(3/23-10/12):</u> \$8,178.40

For October, we have only \$10,273.00 to go until we meet our monthly sales goal!

LITTLE CAESARS:

Delivery : Monday 10/25
1:30 - 5:00pm

Pre-K orders will be available at your dismissal doors. K-8 @ walker dismissal. Door #1 for all other pickups between 2:30-5

CANDY BAR SALE:

Chocolate bars are just \$1.
Payment is accepted via cash, check (payable to SME-HSA) or CC with an order of 2+ boxes.

Order Anytime:
<https://forms.gle/vfLmhrHoEG2PL8oG9>

CALENDAR CLUB:

Order forms went home 10/6
Available until sold out or 12/31/21

GREAT START TO ART

A Special Thanks and Shout Out from the ART ROOM to...

- John at Sherwin Williams/George Urban Blvd. Depew, for the donation of wallpaper books
- Dominic Fulciniti at Buffalo Paint & Wallpaper, Hertel Ave, Buffalo for the donation of wallpaper books
- Shari S. In Williamsville, for huge stack of tagboard (used for 2020 remote Art Sketchbooks)
- Lisa K. in Lancaster, for the donation of beads, miscellaneous supplies
- DiGiacomo Family for putting me in touch with Mr. Croglio - who donated numerous full rolls of wallpaper
- Zaluski and Forsys Families for numerous Art and Craft supplies
- an anonymous donor of Styrofoam trays, Mat board samples and frame corners
- Faculty and staff who leave styrofoam egg cartons and yogurt cups in my mailbox!

All these materials were received and will continue to be used this school year with the SME Artists! **We are always in need of STYROFOAM EGG cartons, clean Plastic containers with lids. (Hillshire farm deli-meat type).** If you know of anyone who has a printing company or sign shop and would like to donate assorted paper cut offs and sticker remnants please contact me at pesanyau@SMESchool.com or if you think you have some materials that could be used in the Art room.

NEW this year: Square 1 Art

All students (PreK through grade 8) have been busy completing their one-of-a-kind artwork to be used with the Square 1 Art program. Square 1 Art is a fundraiser, founded by a Teacher, where families can order their child's artwork reproduced on useful and personalized keepsakes. St. Mary's Elementary School has partnered with Square 1 Art so every student feels like an accomplished artist while raising funds for the School Art program. Christmas is just two months away... Square 1 Art is a great choice for unique holiday gifts! More information on this program will be coming home soon.

I am looking forward to another creative year with your child!

-Mrs. Pesany-Au

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ALL SAINTS DAY MASSES

Father Paul invites you to attend Mass & invites your children to dress up as their favorite Saint for Masses on Saturday, October 30th, Sunday October 31, & Monday, November 1st (All Saints Day). Whichever Mass you plan to attend on these dates, please encourage and assist your children to dress as a Saint in honor of All Saints Day. We look forward to worshipping & praying with you!

Mass times are as follows:

Saturday, October 30th: 4:30pm & 7:00pm
Sunday, October 31st: 8:00am, 10:00am, & 12:00pm
Monday, November 1st - All Saints Day (a Holy Day of Obligation): 7:00pm

FOOTBALL FRENZY

The Football Frenzy information came home today. Tickets are \$10 each and cash prizes are mailed December 2021-January 2022. Ticket orders are due by Friday, November 19th and will be processed by our chairperson. Please allow 1-2 weeks to receive your tickets.

Volunteers are needed to stuff the bulletins on Friday, October 22nd. Please reach out to Mary Kate DeMarzio at marykate@stmarysonthehill.org if you are able to help.

Chair: Melissa Mitchell
Email: melissa.mitchell514@gmail.com
Phone: (716) 465-9846





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



TWO WEEKENDS LEFT: Take advantage of Bonus Fest bonuses to raise more money on things you buy - without any extra effort. New offers are revealed every Friday. Get the details:

<https://www.facebook.com/ShopWithScrip/>

- Bonuses start at 12:00 a.m. ET Friday and end at 11:59 p.m. ET Sunday
- Offers will be announced each weekend.
- All gift card types (eGift cards, physical cards, and money added to reloadable cards) are included).

Gift card updates:

- Some vendors are beginning to offer gift cards in lower denominations for the holidays. When we have the full list available, we will share it with you!
- Please plan ahead for your holiday shopping, as UPS is adjusting their delivery schedules. In November, we will post the deadline for Scrip orders to guarantee delivery before Christmas.
- 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%. Questions: scrip@smeschool.com

S-O-S (SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL)

Active involvement of all of 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!

A list of the events and fundraisers that we plan to hold throughout the year at St. Mary's was included with the NewsNotes on 9/15/21. Please save this sheet so that you have quick access to the information that you need. Events and their details are subject to change as we move through the year, and regular updates will be posted in the NewsNotes, church bulletin, on Facebook and the school & church websites.

If you are interested in helping out with any of the events listed, please reach out to the specific event chair (if provided), or our Events Coordinator, Mary Kate DeMarzio at marykate@stmarysonthehill.org.

Your involvement is vital to the success of these events!



SME GEAR STORE

Our gear store closes today at 11:59PM!

SME.allstarsgear.com



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Tickets are \$30 each, or 3/\$75 and will be sold November-December. Daily cash prizes will be awarded December 25, 2021-January 5, 2022.

Volunteers are needed to prepare the mailing the week of October 25th (can be done from home). Watch the NewsNotes for more information, or contact the chairs: Amanda Barton & Jenny Sparmo at Jennifersparmo@gmail.com, or (716) 713-0719.



CALENDAR CLUB

Sales of the 2022 Calendar Club sponsored by St. Mary of the Assumption Parish & St. Mary's Elementary School are underway, and this year we are running two sets, A & B, so that more people can join in on the fun!

See the flier attached to the NewsNotes on October 6th for more information!

Upon receipt of your \$20.00 donation, your name and number will be registered for all daily drawings for the year 2022.

Winning numbers will be determined using a random number generator (000-999) and will be published at the beginning of the following month.

All winnings will be determined by the amount of money indicated on each day of the calendar. \$50.00 is awarded on the first day of each month, with the exception of New Year's Day, when the prize is \$150.00.

Each month has at least two days when the prize is \$50.00 or higher.

All calendars not sold and returned by December 31st, 2021 will become the property of St. Mary's. All winnings are paid at the beginning of the following month.

For more information, please contact

Jessica Kulpit at jesskulpit@gmail.com.



UNIFORM REMINDERS

- No show socks are not allowed
- Shorts are only allowed through the end of this month
- Shirts should be tucked in on all students
- Belts are a part of the dress code

Three non-compliance notices or warnings for dress code violations will automatically generate an after-school detention for that student.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers who are here sporadically do not need to show proof of vaccination. Volunteers who are here on a more regular basis (ie: lunch monitoring) will be asked to provide that information. We appreciate your patience & understanding as we work to keep our school safe.

PE UNIFORMS

PE uniform orders went home with your oldest/only child yesterday.

We have a very limited inventory available on hand in the school. If you find yourself in a position where you are in need of attire before our store opens again in the spring, please email Mrs. Kuhn so that the inventory can be checked.

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The Home School Association (our PTA) is a vital group of volunteers who work to ensure the positive growth of our school community.

The HSA team will host a variety of fundraisers throughout the school year. Each fundraiser benefits the school and students directly.

If you are interested in joining our team of HSA volunteers, please contact Kristie May (hsa@smeschool.com).

Little Caesars Delivery Information:

Delivery is Monday 10/25 (1:30-5:00)

- ◆ Orders for pre-k students will be available at your dismissal door.
- ◆ Orders for k-8 students being picked up from school will be available at the PC/regular dismissal door.
- ◆ Students staying for Afterschool care will have their orders available at pick up.
- ◆ If you are unable to pick up your child & order from school @ 2:30 they will be available for pick up at door #1 until 5:00.

If you are unable to make it by 5 please contact Kristy May to make alternate arrangements: hsa@smeschool.com

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Details are attached electronically about the Safe Environment lesson which will be done the week of October 25th.



8TH GRADE INFO

If your child plans on attending a catholic high school next year you will need to complete the online application:

https://catholicshwny.smapply.io/prog/application_for_admission_grade_9/

Please be sure to print and sign the confirmation email you receive upon completion and submit to the main office. Without this signed document, we are unable to submit a copy of your child's 1st report card to their 1st & 2nd choice catholic high schools.

If your child plans to shadow at any of the local high schools, please email the homeroom teacher and copy Mrs. Kuhn on it. Their daily attendance will reflect that they are shadowing. Please have your child check with their teachers to ensure they are not missing important material/tests.

NURSE INFO

Nurse Tara is available Monday - Friday from 9:30am until 1:00pm.

Nurse Tara can be reached at:
nurse@smeschool.com
683-2112 x128



STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: 10/20 Fall Picture Re-Take Day

Save the Date: 10/25 Little Caesars Delivery Day

Save the Date: 10/27 Progress Report Upload K-8

Save the Date: 11/11 No School

Save the Date:

Save the Date:



St. Mary's Elementary Red Ribbon Week

October 25th – 29th 2021



BE HAPPY. BE BRAVE. BE DRUG FREE!

Monday, Oct. 25th

Proud to be DRUG Free!

To kick off Red Ribbon Week, wear as much **RED** as you can! (no hair dye)

Jeans are allowed (free of rips/tears, NO leggings, yoga's, or jogger pants).

Wednesday, Oct. 27th



I am too **BRIGHT** for Drugs!

Please wear a neon shirt/sweatshirt and you may wear sunglasses too!

Jeans are allowed (free of rips/tears, NO leggings, yoga's, or jogger pants).



Tuesday, Oct. 26th

Let's Team Up Against Drugs?

Wear your favorite Sports Jersey or Team Gear!

Jeans are allowed (free of rips/tears, NO leggings, yoga's, or jogger pants).



Thursday, Oct. 28th

"Drugs Can't Find Me"



Today you may wear a camouflage shirt/sweatshirt.

Jeans are allowed (free of rips/tears, NO leggings, yoga's, or jogger pants).

Friday, Oct. 29th



Drugs are Scary, so let's **SCARE** off Drugs!!

Today please wear a Halloween T-shirt/sweatshirt, Halloween socks and or Hat (no face masks).

Jeans are allowed (free of rips/tears, NO leggings, yoga's, or jogger pants).



Just a reminder, if you do not want to participate in the "special dress up" days that are assigned for Red Ribbon Week, you will need to wear your school uniform.



Empowering God's Children[®] Safe Environment Program

Youth session conducted by Lesson Leaders
Parent Information & Optional Opt-Out Form

Dear Parents and Guardians,

10/19/21

In an effort to assist in the monumental mission of protecting children, St. Mary's Elementary is partnering with you to present a safe environment lesson to your child. It is our cherished role as adults to fully protect children. In addition, we must also teach children/youth about their safety rights and boundaries, so that they have tools to protect themselves. What follows is information about the program itself and the resources available to you. **PLEASE NOTE: There are required action items on page 2 with content you may need to return.**

Empowering God's Children Program Information:

A program for children, each lesson includes a grade-appropriate video component along with learning activities. The material is designed to better equip your child to know their safety rights, recognize their boundaries, and to empower them to protect themselves when safe adults are not immediately available—and ultimately be safer from people who might want to harm them.

As we partner together in delivering this content to youth, there are two especially helpful resources to assist in delivering the lessons. These resources are provided to our Lesson Leaders (which include you as parents, along with the persons delivering the content per the organization). First, the *Teaching Boundaries and Safety Guide*, which equips safe adults to facilitate an ongoing safety dialogue, and the *Lesson Leader Orientation and Certification Module*, give you better insight about conducting the lessons. Please communicate directly with your local or diocesan coordinator to gain access to each of these specific resources. Following the lesson, we encourage you to continue reinforcing the message at home whenever possible.

- I. TRAINING DATE INFORMATION:** The children/youth will be taught the age-appropriate safe environment lesson directly by the organization. The material will be delivered in person.

Date(s) of organization-led training: Week of Oct. 25th, 2021

- II. CONTACT INFORMATION:** *For questions, or to obtain access to the resources, the specific lesson and related activities, please contact:*

Your child's religion teacher

(Name / Position / Contact information)

As parents, you are the primary educators of your children/youth, and you have the ability to “opt” your child/youth out of the formal in-program safety lesson. This means that the child will *only* receive safe-environment lesson information from your own commitment to deliver them at home, and will not have any additional learning opportunities from the location. Please complete and submit the following form only if you DO NOT want your child to receive safe environment information delivered through St. Mary's about ways to protect themselves and get help when needed. Your coordinator will reach out to you regarding relevant protocol, i.e., child separation from others during lesson, how you will deliver the lesson at home, etc.



Empowering God's Children[®] Safe Environment Program

Youth session conducted by Lesson Leaders
Parent Information & Optional Opt-Out Form

TO OPT-OUT THE CHILD FROM THE SAFETY LESSON

Complete this portion **ONLY** if you **DO NOT** want your child/youth to participate in the Empowering God's Children Program

I, (name of parent or guardian) _____, have reviewed the safety lessons and DO NOT give my permission for this location to present the Empowering God's Children Safety Lesson to my child (printed name of child) _____ Grade _____.

Parent Signature* _____ Date _____

I, (name of parent/guardian) _____, certify that (select one below):

I have presented my child/youth (name) _____ in grade _____, the Empowering God's Children Lesson: _____ (title) on (date) _____.

OR

I am choosing to "opt-out" my child/youth (name) _____ in grade _____ so they will not receive any safe environment training for this year.

Parent Signature* _____ Date _____

**If you are unable to print, sign and scan, typing in your full name above will be considered your signature.*

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO

(Name / Location): St. Mary's Elementary to your child's religion teacher

BY: October 22, 2021

Thank you for your partnership with us to protect children and youth.



ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL
LANCASTER, NY



Take the first step!

**High School Entrance Exam
& Review Classes**

Review Classes - Nov. 3rd-5th from 4 to 6 p.m.
Entrance Exam - Nov. 20th from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Register at smhlancers.org



St. Mary's offers a comprehensive **three-day review course - November 3rd to November 5th from 4 to 6 p.m.** - to prepare students for the HSPT High School Entrance Exam. Learn strategies and tips to earn your highest score!

The **Entrance Exam** itself then takes place on **Saturday, November 20th from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Students must sign up to take the exam at St. Mary's in order to be considered for one of our dozens of scholarships.

We can't wait to continue to help you along your journey to become a member of the Class of 2026!

Begin your journey!



ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL
LANCASTER, NY

142 Laverack Ave. Lancaster, NY 14086

St. Mary's is going up!

1 of just 3 private high schools to
show an increase in enrollment
from 2020 to 2021

