

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

This week as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, we ask that all the students demonstrate the values and faith that they gain through their Catholic Education and learn how to make the world a better place. It is the job of all of us here to participate in our mission of being disciples of Jesus and to love and serve others.

There are many benefits to attending Catholic Schools:

- The integration of faith with academic subjects, culture, and everyday life
- The emphasis of living out the faith as missionary disciples
- Catholic virtues and values and Catholic Social Teaching, which contribute to productive citizenship and responsible leadership
- An environment that encourages and nurtures prayer and is safe, welcoming, and supportive for children
- A favorable student to teacher ratio
- High graduation and college attendance rates
- Teacher commitment

(Sadlier Religion Blog)

This Friday will be our Christian Witness Mass.

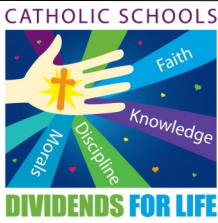
God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PASTOR...

As you already know, Mrs. Kim Kwitowski has resigned as Principal of St. Mary's Elementary School effective February 18, 2022. Mr. Keith Junik will be assuming the role of Principal for the current academic year. He will serve in this position through June 2022 as the search for a new principal is conducted in the coming months.

We are grateful to Mrs. Kwitowski for her leadership of the school community for the past six years and extend our best wishes to her in her new position. Mr. Junik brings experience as a principal and has great strengths for leading our school during this time. We welcome him and extend to him our support.

Fr. Paul



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 2/2 - CSW: Class Colors. Progress Report Upload: K-8
- 2/3 - CSW Dress Like Teacher & Formal Day
- 2/4 - CSW Sports / 'Soup' er Bowl. Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 2/9 - Spring Photo Day, Pre-K 3-8
- 2/21-2/25 - NO SCHOOL: Mid-Winter Recess
- 3/2 - Ash Wednesday Mass, 8:30. Lent Begins
- 3/11 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- 3/18 - 10:45 Early Dismissal, Staff PD



BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

From 1/25 - 1/31/22 the Scrip rebate profit earned towards tuition was \$206.10.

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: \$20,480.00
(\$9,520 below our goal)

Annual Rebate Profit to Date
(3/23-1/31/22): \$17,973.60

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.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 1/31 - 2/4/22

We will finish out Catholic Schools Week with the following themes:

Wednesday: Class Color Day
Thursday: Pk - 1 Dress Like a Teacher Day & Gr 2-8 Formal Attire Day
Friday: Sports Day

Don't forget! Our baby diaper & wipe collection continues through the week!

Friday we are collecting cans of Soup for our 'Soup' er Bowl theme!

AFTERSCHOOL CARE 2/8/2022

Due to the Virtual Open House we will be closing Afterschool Care at **5:30pm** next **Tuesday 2/8**. Please be sure to make arrangements to have your child picked up by that time. We appreciate your cooperation & understanding.



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>

2022-2023 REGISTRATION

Re-Registration packets went out to our student body on Monday & Tuesday this week. Please check your child's backpack if you have not seen it yet.

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!

NURSE NOTES

Valentines day is coming! If your child's class is having a party, please be sure to follow the guidelines outlined for their classroom with regards to safe food/treats. Many classes have allergies and we want all to enjoy the day!

Please make sure you are reading all labels/ingredients pertaining to the potential of allergens. If you have any questions about your child's class, please reach out to me or the teacher.

If you are preparing any kind of goodie bag *please* send the main packaging in so that it can be reviewed.

Nurse Tara Salge
nurse@smeschool.com
683-2112 x128



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRINCIPALS DESK	1
PASTORS PASSAGE	1
BY THE NUMBERS	1
ASC - 2/8/2022	1
OPEN HOUSE	1
REGISTRATION	1
NURSE NOTES	1
SCRIP	2
ART	2
SCHOOLSTORE	2
KITCHEN NEWS	2
CALENDAR CLUB	2
MEGA RAFFLE	2
GOLF TOURNAMENT	2
NURSE INFO	2
BISON FUND	2
DR. UHL: CSW	2
SME MEMORIES	2
STAY IN THE KNOW	2



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

Great news! Beginning with the first quarter of the 2022/2023 school year, the tuition rebate credit will be split 80/20 as opposed to the 50/50 split that occurred this year. Now, you will be able to save even more on your tuition!

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. Guys - the time to order is now! The ladies in your life will think you've forgotten and you'll be good to go!

Need something sweet for someone special? Why not purchase a Fowler's gift card from Scrip? You'll get a 40% rebate back on your tuition as well!

Updates:

- Sunoco & Gift Card Wrappers are temporarily unavailable
- Kohls: Online ordering use (SME) option to get 5%.
- Tops: Online ordering use (Tops Markets) option to get the 5.5%

Hours:

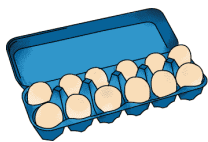
- Monday - Friday 9:00 - 3:00 in the Rectory
- To ensure timely receipt, orders must be submitted (paper & online) by 10:00am Monday.

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. 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

Shipping delays resulted in the delayed distribution of the SchoolStore Fundraiser information. As such, the information is coming home with your child today.

As always, we understand that not every fundraiser works for every family. Your support is appreciated throughout our fundraising efforts.

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 you have any questions about this fundraiser, you can reach Joe Magiera at : calendarclub@smeschool.com or (716) 253-7880.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE: Our 2022 Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, July 18th at the Lancaster Country Club. Information will be coming home soon re: the pre-tournament raffle tickets and signing up for the tournament. Keep an eye on the NewsNotes for more information. We are looking for additional members on the planning committee, as well as volunteers to help out the day of the tournament. Please reach out to Phil Gonser if you are interested/available: pgonser@gmail.com or (716) 807-5719.

KITCHEN NEWS

Due to the increase in cost of goods the following price adjustments will go into effect February 1st:

Rice Krispy Treats - \$0.75
Ice Cream Treats - \$0.75
Potato Chips, Doritos, Sun Chips, Popcorn - \$0.50.

Thank you for your continued support of the St Mary's Elementary School Lunch Program.

If you have questions at any time, please feel free to contact our kitchen team at:
kitchenmanager@smeschool.com

MEGA RAFFLE

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



As stated in the registration packet, fundraising participation is expected of each family, including the responsibility to sell or purchase two Mega Raffle tickets.

Information on how to purchase and sell tickets will be coming home today, so keep a look-out!

If you are interested in joining our committee, or helping out with the drawing in any way, please contact Mary Kate DeMarzio at: megaraffle@smeschool.com Thank you to those that have already reached out to help!

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>

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. **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.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Happy Catholic Schools Week from
Dr. Uhl

<https://youtu.be/wmv0tMW735k>



SME MEMORIES

Our Spring Picture Day is next 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. Order forms went home last week for those interested in ordering.

Our yearbook online order site is now open: inter-state.com/order
Code: 63622B Yearbook cost: \$13.00

STAY IN THE KNOW



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

Save the Date: 2/4 Christian Witness Mass

Save the Date: 2/9 - Spring Picture Day

Save the Date: 2/21-2/25 Mid Winter Recess

Save the Date: 3/2 - Lent Begins, Ash Wednesday Mass 8:30

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, LANCASTER, NY- "...visible examples of Gospel living."

Feb, 2022

Student lunches are **\$3.50**, and adult lunches are **\$5**. During this time, we ask that all lunches be prepaid with either cash or check made out to SME, in the exact amount. Any overage will be kept on account. All lunches are comprised of five components; protein, whole grain, vegetables, fruit & milk. In addition to the main entrée, there are four alternate choices offered daily; Julienne Salad, Yogurt Parfait, Sunbutter & Jelly, Ham/Cheese Sandwiches. Milk may be purchased ala carte for those bringing a lunch from home for \$0.50. All orders are taken during Homeroom. We appreciate your support and look forward to serving your child/children a freshly prepared lunch each day. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at kitchenmanager@smeschool.com. We appreciate your support. Tracy Hadsall & Jenny Fulciniti

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
31 Western Day Cheeseburger Tater Tots, Veggie Fruit & Milk	1 Beach Day Loaded Baked Potato Veggie, Fruit & Milk	2 Class Color Day Taco Salad w/Tortillas Veggies, Fruit & Milk No Alt B Offered Today	3 Chicken Dinner Mashed Potatoes Veggies, Fruit & Milk	4 Sports Day Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk
7 Cheesy Potato & Chicken Casserole Veggie, Fruit & Milk	8 Chicken Stir Fry Brown Rice Veggies, Fruit & Milk	9 Chicken Caesar Salad Breadstick Veggies, Fruit & Milk No Alt B Offered Today	10 Mac-n-Cheese Tomato Soup Veggie, Fruit & Milk	11 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Romaine Salad Veggies, Fruit & Milk
14 Happy St Valentine's Day Pasta w/Meatballs Salad, Veggie, Fruit, Milk	15 Chicken Incredi Bowl Mashed Potatoes Veggie, Fruit & Milk	16 Cobb Salad Veggie, Fruit & Milk No Alt B Offered Today	17 Sloppy Joes Tater Tots Veggie, Fruit & Milk	18 Mozzarella Sticks Romaine Salad Veggie, Fruit & Milk
21 Winter Break Enjoy	22 Winter Break Enjoy	23 Winter Break Enjoy	24 Winter Break Enjoy	25 Winter Break Enjoy
28 French Toast Sticks Egg Patty Fruit & Milk				PLEASE NOTE, STARTING IN FEBRUARY, ALL ICE CREAM INCREASING IN PRICE TO \$0.75 EACH. CHIPS AND SIMILAR TO REMAIN \$0.50. Thank you!

Menu subject to change.

Prepayment Guidelines for Student Lunches at St Mary's Elementary

1. The upcoming lunch menu is always posted on the SME Website by the last Wednesday of the month. Once you look over the menu, you may decide to prepay for as many or as few lunches as you wish.
2. A check or cash may be sent with your child/children in an envelope clearly labeled with 'Name, Amount Enclosed, and Number of Lunches Paying For.'
3. The Kitchen will then record how many Prepaid Lunches are available for your student(s), and will be marked accordingly. We will track your account(s) as the lunches are used and the account is depleted.
4. Even if the account balance is at zero, no child will ever go without a lunch. A Notice of Account will be sent via e-mail to indicate that the account needs to be replenished.
5. We also allow for ala carte milk to be prepaid. We will record and track daily milk purchases, just as we do for lunches. Simply send in a clearly marked envelope with your 'Name, Amount Enclosed, and Number of Milk Purchases Paying For.'
6. Any questions regarding the SME Lunch Program, contact us at kitchenmanager@smeschool.com, or 683-2112 extension 119 during school business hours.

Please note our daily offerings and menu options are subject to change. Due to Covid, our menu has become somewhat more fluid, often changing to accommodate supply chain interruptions and shortages. We have had to make several changes as deliveries have not included what was requested at the beginning of the month, when the menu was created. We do not always know when a manufacturer stops production or drops a product from their line because of demand, or lack thereof. Although these substitutions are made after the menu has been created, the daily offerings are still in keeping with the National School Lunch Program, and adhere to all standards set forth. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at kitchenmanager@smeschool.com. Thank you for your support of our school lunch program! We love our Customers and appreciate their patience!