

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 26 MARCH 23, 2022

FROM THE INTERIM PRINCIPAL...

Dear Families of SME,

Last Friday, while our students enjoyed their early dismissal, our faculty and staff spent the afternoon engaged in a very productive professional development meeting. We discussed intentionally and assertively choosing positivity and having fun in school, being connected and engaged with others, and ways to incorporate these principles into our classrooms!

Our teacher professional development day mirrors SME's recent growth. It was a pleasure to cheer on our 7th and 8th grade boys during their playoff basketball game. Memories made and displaying good sportsmanship and teamwork demonstrated that our young men were victorious last Saturday, regardless of the score of the game. Additionally, we continue to actively build a positive school culture, one that emphasizes respect and empathy. Yesterday, our middle school students attended a presentation by School Resource Office Loewer, who spoke of positive social interactions, responsible use of technology and healthy social relationships and boundaries.

Finally, I would like to formally announce and welcome Ms. Bridget Helak to our SME team. Ms. Helak brings an interesting and varied background of experiences, and has already proven to be an assertive and helpful member of our team. She will be our Monday - Friday Physical Education / Health long-term substitute.

Have a wonderful week, and please stay connected to St. Mary's by liking and following us on Facebook, where we regularly share pictures and other information throughout the week.

Yours in Christ,
Mr. Glenn Olejniczak

BASKETBALL SLAM

This fundraiser follows the March Madness tournament March 15-April 4, 2022.

Tickets are \$10 each and winning prizes are mailed out to the winners after the tournament is over.



We have been informed that online sales continue through 4/1. Winners are awarded after the tournament is over.

www.basketballsweeps.com
Code: BK22MARY

Please reach out to Melissa Mitchell if you have any questions.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3/23 - K-8 Report Card Upload
- 3/29 - NYS ELA Testing Gr. 4 & 8 only
- 3/30 - NYS ELA Testing Gr 4 & 8 only
- 3/31 - 3:00-10:00 pm IHOP Fundraiser (Walden Ave Location)
- 4/1 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- 4/5 - Club Photos
- 4/8 - Living Stations, 7pm in the Church. Yearbook orders due.
- 4/11 - 4/18 - NO SCHOOL Easter Recess
- 4/26 - NYS Math Testing Gr 4 & 8 only
- 4/27 - NYS Math Testing Gr 4 & 8 only



BY THE NUMBERS

SCRIP:

From 3/15 - 3/21/22 the Scrip rebate profit earned towards tuition was \$277.61.

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

March Sales to Date: \$15,495.00

Annual Rebate Profit to Date (3/15 - 3/21/22): \$277.61

Our new annual profit calendar began 3/15/2022.

CANDY BAR SALE:

Chocolate bars are just \$1.

Initial Order: \$7200.00
(Deficit)/Profit: (\$2067.00)

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.

ATHLETICS

A note from the Athletic Director...

As we head into the spring sports season I wanted to provide an update on where we stand with all of our rosters and initial next steps.

Soccer: We have been able to register a Mites team (1st & 2nd graders) as we received enough students to field a team as well as parent volunteer coaches. More information will be sent to this group. With regards to all other grades, you should have been contacted on all options (moving to another sport, returning your athletic fee, etc) as we did not have enough students nor coaches to field the other grades.

Track & Field: We have been able to secure enough parent volunteer coaches as well as student athletes and have registered for the track league. More information will be sent out once the coaches connect and get their dates set up. In addition, we are still able to add to our track team for any interested student(s) in grade 3 - 8. You can reach out to me for more information.

Softball Camp: All families that registered for the softball camp (through Softball Central) have been enrolled and more information will be sent out as well as connecting you directly to our contacts at Softball Central. There is still time to get enrolled into this camp (start date is 4/1) for any girls in 1st - 8th grade. You can reach out to me for more information.

Girls Diocesan Softball League: If you are interested in being the head coach(es) for this middle school league, please reach out to me asap. There is a league meeting on March 31st (7pm at St Mary's High School) that you would need to attend. Head coaches will be responsible for attending league meetings, rostering a team, running all practices as well as being at all games. Once I have this we can work on registering and sign ups.

Thank you all for your interest and support for all of our sports opportunities! It has been great to see our student athletes competing at all levels.

Steve DeMarzio
athletics@smeschool.com

BISON FUND

New families: Our lottery drawing was held on March 8th and families will receive the results via email. If a family is selected to receive funding, they will receive a link to complete a full application online. The deadline for new families to complete the full application is April 30th. The pre-application form remains open on our website. Families who complete it will be placed on our waiting list. We do take families off the waitlist as more funds become available so, please continue to apply.

Renewing families: Families were sent an email on February 22nd with the link to start the renewal process. As a reminder, families need to upload their financial documents in step 3 of the renewal process. The deadline for families to renew their scholarship for the 2022-23 school year is April 15th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cindy McDonald at 716-854-0869 ext. 1 or cmcdonald@bisonfund.com.



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www.smeschool.com



UPON THIS HILL,
WE DO GOD'S WILL



SCRIP

For the 22-23 school year, the tuition rebate credit will now be split 80/20 as opposed to the 50/50 split that occurred before.

You can now save even more on your tuition!

Gift card updates:

- Now in stock: \$25 Focus Brands gift cards: good at McAlister's, Carvel, Moe's, Auntie Anne's, Jamba, Cinnabon & Schlotzsky's
- Sunoco Gift Cards are temporarily unavailable.
- Gift Card Wrappers are no longer available.
- Kohl's: Online ordering use (SME) option to get the 5% rebate
- Tops: Online ordering use (Tops Markets) option to get the 5.5% rebate

April Order Dates:
4/4 & 4/25 only

Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9:00-3:00 in the Rectory

To ensure timely receipt, orders (paper & online) must be submitted by 10:00am Monday

For a complete list of participating retailers, visit the ShopWithScrip website: <http://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Shop/Products/Browse>
If you have any questions, please email us at scrip@smeschool.com.

We are here for you!

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.

NURSE NOTES

Below are the expectations, at this time, for all of those in the SME community:

- We strongly encourage, if your child is sick, please keep them at home.
- Your child must be fever free for 24 hours, with no medications, before returning to school.
- Your child must have no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Medicines of any kind, (i.e. cough drops, vitamins) are not permitted as per the handbook.
- If an individual (i.e., students, faculty, or staff) tests positive for COVID-19, the individual must isolate for five days. Upon return to school, the individual **must** wear a mask, including on school buses, during days 6-10 of their isolation period.
- If your child has symptoms or you believe your child was exposed to an individual with COVID-19, please consider testing. There is **no testing required** to return to school.
- If you would still prefer your child wear a mask to school, please do so. Everyone has a different comfort level.

Please remember that if you have any questions or concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Nurse Tara Salge, nurse@smeschool.com, 683-2112 x128
M-F 9:30am - 1:00pm

SME YEARBOOK

Paper/flyer order forms went home 3/2 and are due by 4/8.

Cost: \$13

Online ordering ends 4/15: inter-state.com/order

Code: 63622B



YEARBOOK PHOTO DAY: CLUB PICS

Students who have participated in any of our clubs / sports will have their picture taken on Tuesday, April 5th for the yearbook.



MEGA RAFFLE

Mega Raffle ticket sales are going great with
536 tickets sold as of March 17th.

The second early bird drawing is on Friday, April 1st, and orders will be accepted through 4:00pm on Thursday, March 31st.

Be sure to get your orders in for a chance to win **\$200!!**

**** All tickets are entered into every drawing ****

As a reminder, the Mega Raffle fundraiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. So far, **169** 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.

The prize winners will be announced at the virtual drawing on Friday, June 10th.

Flyers are available upon request and on the school website if you would like to bring them to your place of business to sell - people love a raffle!

If you are interested in joining the Mega Raffle committee, please reach out to me garaffle@smeschool.com.

We encourage as much support as possible!



SCHOOLSTORE.COM

Thank you to those families who have spread the word about our SchoolStore fundraiser.

Participation prizes are still being distributed daily.

8TH GRADE INFO

March 28th: 8th Grade graduation photo retake day

April 1st: picture & writeups are due, watch for more info via email

April 8th: Living Stations at 7:00 PM in the church. We hope you will join us!



GOLF TOURNAMENT



Save the Date: Our 2022 Golf Tournament has been moved to Monday, July 11th at Diamond Hawk Golf Club.

Information will be coming home soon regarding the pre-tournament raffle tickets & registration. Keep an eye on the NewsNotes for all the details!

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 in helping out: pgonser@gmail.com or (716) 807-5719. We are asking that anyone who has reached out thus far, please do so again. Due to an email change, we want to ensure that we did not inadvertently drop anyone from our list.

HSA

Penny Fair: We are excited for the possibility of bringing back our longest standing tradition at SME, the Penny Fair! The Penny Fair will be held on Friday, May 6th.

We cannot do it without the support of parents/grandparents/aunts & uncles to help run the show! If you are interested in helping please contact Mrs. Kuhn (secretary@smeschool.com).

If you are interested in hearing more information on chairing this fun event please mention that also!

IHOP: Come on out Thursday, March 31st and support SME while you eat! Customers visiting the IHOP located on Walden Ave (in the Thruway plaza, near Harlem) will have 20% of their check donated to SME. What a tasty way to support our school! Watch for the flyer on our FB page for an easy way to share with friends & family!

STREAM FLOWER SALE



We will be holding our annual STREAM flower fundraiser April 6 - April 27, 2022.

Plants and flowers will be delivered in time for Mother's Day!

Flower pick-up will take place on Thursday, May 5th from 2:30 - 6:00 pm.

The order form link (online orders) will be shared in next week's NewsNote. We thank you in advance for your support of our STREAM initiative here at SME!

TAX INFO

We are unable to give out our Tax Id Number. Have your preparer indicate 'Religious Exemption' in its place.



CALENDAR CLUB

If you have any questions about this fundraiser, you can reach

Joe Magiera at
calndarclub@smeschool.com, or
(716) 253-7880.

Monthly winners posted on our website's NewsNote tab.

CHOCOLATE

Niagara: The Niagara online store will remain open until 4/4. Direct shipping is the only delivery option.

Fowlers: Delivery/Accuracy survey was sent on Monday to those that participated. Response is needed by the end of the day today to process/correct any missing inventory concerns.

STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: 4/1 Mega Early Bird Drawing #2

Save the Date: 4/11-4/18 No School

Save the Date: 4/6 - 4/27 STREAM Flower Sale

Save the Date: 5/25-5/26 Spring BOGO Book Fair

Save the Date: 6/3 - Ready SET Read / Battle of the Books

PLEASE SUPPORT APPEAL 2022

YOUR GIFT TODAY GIVES HOPE TOMORROW

Appeal 2022 gives HOPE for families, HOPE for new beginnings, HOPE for the young and young at heart. Take a look at some of the ways your gift can help individuals & families in need. →



\$15

CAN RESTORE DIGNITY

A \$15 donation can provide hygiene items for a family in need, or provide several families with an emergency diaper pack.

\$25

CAN PROVIDE A MEAL

A \$25 donation can provide emergency groceries for a family in crisis, or can provide two dozen children with gloves and hats to help keep warm in the cold.

\$50

CAN SUPPORT GOALS

A \$50 donation can provide school supplies for two students in need, or can provide professional clothing for a new job or interview.

HOW WE SERVE



People helped through Catholic Charities programs:
125,657 served in 2021 through
57 programs in 80 locations



Basic Needs
12,407



Education & Training
2,005



Family Safety & Stabilization
2,939



Food Pantries & Other Nutrition Support
87,310



Immigration & Refugee Assistance
1,149



In-School Counseling & Support
7,034



Older Adults Support
1,639



Mental Wellness & Substance Use
11,174

[CCWNY.ORG/DONATE](https://ccwny.org/donate)

TEXT "GIVEHOPE22" TO 44321

When making a gift, please be sure to credit the parish your school is affiliated with.



SCAN ME