

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 24 MARCH 9, 2022

FROM THE INTERIM PRINCIPAL...

Dear Families of SME,

As we near Spring and journey through the early stages of Lent, I am reminded of one of my favorite biblical verses. Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans, "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" (Romans 12:12). Simply put, Paul is urging us to trust God in all situations in life.

Our loving and nurturing St. Mary's family allows all of us to grow and thrive, and our wonderful students offer daily reminders of the importance of hope, power of patience, and necessity of prayer in our lives. Many of the youngest members of our SME community posed for their first (mask less) day of school pictures outside the school last week, as our 8th grade class sat for their cap and gown graduation photographs this week. Whether participating in the Science Olympiad, joining our Lenten Rosary Club, or filling our pre-K classrooms with living examples of sticking together and being a good friend always, our students represent our school in impressive fashion.

As a member of our school, I am comforted in being able to approach our future with happiness and patience as we cope and persevere, guided by a prayerful life.

Mr. Glenn Olejniczak

BASKETBALL SLAM

It is not too late to participate in our Basketball Slam fundraiser!

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.

Ticket **orders** are **due** by **March 16th** and will be processed by our chairperson. Tickets will be sent home ASAP.

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:

- 3/11 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- 3/18 - 10:45 Early Dismissal, Staff PD
- 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
- 4/1 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- 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 3/1 - 3/7/22 the Scrip rebate profit earned towards tuition was \$235.56.

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: \$5,200.00

Annual Rebate Profit to Date (3/23-3/7/22): \$19,350.91

CANDY BAR SALE:

Chocolate bars are just \$1.

Initial Order: \$7200.00
(Deficit)/Profit: (\$3254.00)

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

Dear SME Families,

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our top priority has been to maintain the health and safety of our SME community.

Your continued support has been very much appreciated as we continue to prioritize health and return to a sense of normalcy. We will continue to promote hand hygiene and cough/sneeze etiquette. We will also continue to practice physical distancing as feasible.

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 your child 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.
- ⇒ 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.

Vision and hearing screenings have been going well and are almost done.

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



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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.





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! The fourth quarter of Scrip earnings for the 2021/2022 school year will end on March 14th, and the first quarter of the 2022/2023 school year will begin on March 15th.

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 & Wendy's Gift Cards, and Gift Card Wrappers are temporarily unavailable.
- 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

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. Thank you!*

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

CALENDAR CLUB

Prizes will be paid the first week of each month for the previous month and the winning calendar numbers for each month will be posted on the school (under the NewsNotes tab) and parish websites. February prize winning checks were mailed last week.

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

TAX INFO

Starting your taxes?

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



GOLF TOURNAMENT

UPDATE & SAVE THE DATE: Our 2022 Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, July 11th at Diamond Hawk Golf Club. 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 in helping out: pgonser@gmail.com or (716) 807-5719

MEGA RAFFLE

Mega Raffle ticket sales are going great with **505** tickets sold as of March 4th.

The winner of the Steve Tasker football was ticket number 42! Congratulations!

**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!*****



As a reminder, the Mega Raffle fundraiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. So far, **158** 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 megaraffle@smeschool.com.
We encourage as much support as possible!



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>

ALL THINGS CHOCOLATE

Spring Sale

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

Fowlers: The online store has closed. Any orders selecting free shipping to SME will have product arrive next week. Please keep your eye out for an email as notification of delivery day will be sent out to only those who participated in the sale.

Chocolate Bar Sale

A deposit of \$806 will be going into the bank this week. Payments received between 2/18-current will be processed and deposited next week.

If you are unsure of your account standing, please contact us at candybarsale@smeschool.com

We have just 55 carriers left to close out our sale!

Order Anytime:

<https://forms.gle/vfLmhrHoEG2PL8oG9>

Online form has updated with sold out flavors.

We appreciate your support of this classic Catholic School sale!

STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: 3/18 Early Dismissal 10:45

Save the Date: 3/23 K-8 Report Card Upload

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

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

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



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

8th Graders had their cap & gown photos taken on Tuesday, 3/8. Picture proof forms will be sent home as soon as we receive them if you are interested in purchasing pictures. Caps, gowns & tassels will remain here at school until Graduation.

March Madness Basketball Slam



St. Mary's Elementary School is excited to announce the Basketball Slam Fundraiser!

How does it work?

This fundraiser follows the NCAA March Madness tournament.



ST. MARY
OF THE
ASSUMPTION

Membership cards cost \$10.00.

There are 24 teams used for the this fundraiser. The ticket holder scratches of the box on the front of the ticket to reveal their 4 teams for the entire tournament.

If you purchase 2 tickets, you are eligible to go online to receive a 3rd ticket for free.

This is done online ONLY once you have received your tickets.

Tickets can also be purchased online at www.basketballsweeps.com. Enter code **BK22MARY**.

How do I win?

Each teams' scores for all rounds played are added together to determine the HIGHEST and LOWEST prizes!

All stubs and collected money is due by **March 16th**. Checks should be made payable to **St. Mary's Elementary**.

Use the back of this form to include orders from other family members and friends!

Return the form below by **March 18th** to order tickets. **Please print neatly.**

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Number of tickets _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Please select your preferred delivery method:

Mail

Rectory Pick Up

Send with St. Mary's student (child/teacher) _____



Additional Orders

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Number of tickets _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Please select your preferred delivery method:

Mail

Rectory Pick Up

Send with St. Mary's student (child/teacher) _____

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Number of tickets _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Please select your preferred delivery method:

Mail

Rectory Pick Up

Send with St. Mary's student (child/teacher) _____

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Number of tickets _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Please select your preferred delivery method:

Mail

Rectory Pick Up

Send with St. Mary's student (child/teacher) _____



2022 Basketball Slam Fundraiser Instructions

- BASKETBALL SLAM FUNDRAISER:** This fundraiser follows the March Madness tournament. Membership Card cost is \$10.00, buy 2 get 1 FREE. Purchase of the Membership Card automatically enters you into the Basketball Slam Sweepstakes.
- BUY 2 GET 1 FREE:** By purchasing two membership cards you can go to www.basketballsweeps.com/FREE to get a FREE third ticket! Free ticket(s) will be emailed to you (while supplies last, valid until 4/01/22.)
- TEAMS:** There are 24 teams used for the purpose of this fundraiser. The ticket holder scratches off the box on the front of the ticket to reveal their 4 teams for the entire tournament. Team codes are listed on the back of the ticket. If any team(s) does not make it into the tournament, a replacement team will be assigned and posted at www.basketballsweeps.com after March 14, 2022.
- FILL OUT STUB:** Ticket holders must PRINT LEGIBLY their name, address, and telephone number on the stub. Save time--Address labels can be used. Put your name on the bottom line of the stub (Seller's Name). You keep the stub and give the Membership Card with attached Basketball Slam ticket to the supporter. A ticket holder can follow along if they wish, but do not have to in order to win.
- COLLECT MONEY & STUBS:** Turn in all stubs with the collected money by **March 16th** (see below).
Please make checks payable to: **ST MARYS ELEMENTARY**
- PRIZES: \$500 Total Cash Prizes** will be given away! Each teams' score from all rounds played are added together and compared to determine the HIGHEST and LOWEST prizes! It makes no difference how many games your 4-teams play, or whether teams win or lose. In case of ties, prizes are combined and split. *ALTERNATE METHOD: In the unlikely event that any circumstances beyond our control make it impossible to determine winners as stated, an alternate method, the Weather Program, will be used to distribute prizes. Go to www.basketballsweeps.com for details.*
- WINNERS:** Winning tickets are posted online by April 6, 2022 after the tournament is over. Prizes are mailed out to the winners. Winners do not need to claim a prize. Winners are paid automatically.
- CHECK RESULTS:** Scores will be posted online after each round of the tournament. Final results will be posted by April 6th. Go to WWW.BASKETBALLSWEEPS.COM and enter your access code or log in to check results.
- GREEN BEE SAVINGS CLUB:** To take advantage of the Restaurant.com certificate offers, visit www.greenbeesavingsclub.com. Your membership is valid online until 8/31/2022.
- PURCHASE ONLINE:** Purchases can be made online in 4 Easy Steps! Cards will be emailed to you. To receive a free ticket, you need to purchase two cards in one transaction. Deadline to purchase online is April 1, 2022. *Feel free to share the website and our code with your family and friends. You may also post on your personal Facebook, Twitter, etc.*

1. Go to www.basketballsweeps.com
2. Click Order Tickets Online
3. Enter code **BK22MARY**
4. Create an account or log in

ORDER TICKETS
ONLINE

SCAN NOW  OR VISIT www.basketballsweeps.com

TURN IN ALL STUBS, MONEY, AND UNSOLD TICKETS TO:

The School Office

Questions: Melissa Mitchell • melissa.mitchell514@gmail.com • 716-465-9846

REMEMBER: You are responsible for ALL tickets AND money in your possession.
DEADLINE TO HAVE ALL STUBS & MONEY TURNED IN: MARCH 16TH



**ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL
LANCASTER, NY**



Take the first step!

7th Grade

**Practice Entrance Exam
March 26th from 8 to 11 a.m.**

Register at smhlancers.org



St. Mary's offers the chance for students to do it all - join a sports team, star on stage, create an artistic portfolio, and write for the school newspaper. These extracurriculars play an important role within the impressive academic environment of St. Mary's High School. Our over 440 students experience a supportive family atmosphere that helps each one find their own place and succeed.

We are proud to be the high school home for over 7,000 alumni during our 118-year history, resulting in an impressive network of Lancers across the country. Our current students can then utilize the experiences of these alumni as they explore different career paths.

Begin your journey!



ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL
LANCASTER, NY

142 Laverack Ave. Lancaster, NY 14086

94.79
Average student
athlete's GPA