

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3 SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Happy Wednesday!

As the seasons are now changing, I think that it is important to keep ourselves in a positive mindset as a positive mindset will bring about positive things. "When in doubt, **choose change**. I cannot say whether things will get better if we change; what I can say is they must change if they are to get better. There is nothing permanent except change. I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." (Lichtenberg)

This Thursday evening is our virtual Meet the Teacher Night. You should have received a Zoom or Google Meets invite from your child's teacher. If you have not received one, please let me know. Please log onto the sessions and meet your child's teacher and learn about what is going on in their classrooms.

This Thursday and Friday will also be our Scholastic Book Fair. Information was sent home to you in last week's NN.

This Friday will be our first dress down day for a cause. If your child would like to dress down, please send in \$1.00. Acceptable dress down attire is contained in the uniform policy.

Following the Governor's directive, I am required to post information daily to the state's COVID-19 School Report Card dashboard.

Have a great week!

God's Peace and Love,
Mrs. Kwitowski



FALL BOOKFAIR

We are excited to announce that the Scholastic Book Fair is back!

Here's what you need to know about our upcoming fair:

- Every dollar you spend will benefit our school directly
- You can sign up for Book Fair eWallet, a convenient digital payment account, so your child can shop the Fair cash-free. Grandparents, friends, and others can contribute to the eWallet to help build your home library.
- We're taking precautions to host a safe Fair at our school, focusing on preventive measures.

Save these dates and view our school's Fair site:

Fair Dates: Thursday September 23rd and Friday September 24th. Book Fair

Homepage: <https://tinyurl.com/SMEFallBookfair>

The book fair will be from 8:30-1:00 both days. Please email kristenakjohnson@gmail.com or jennifersparmo@gmail.com if you have any questions.

We can't wait to see your child at the Fair!

Jenny Sparmo and Kristen Johnson - *Book Fair Chairs*



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 9/23 - Virtual Meet the Teacher Night
- 9/23-24 - Book Fair
- 9/24 - \$1 Dress Down
- 10/1 - 15 Minute Early Release Drill
- 10/1 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 10/8 - NO SCHOOL: Staff PD
- 10/11 - NO SCHOOL: Columbus Day
- 10/20 - Picture Re-Take Day
- 10/27 - Progress Report Upload: K-8
- 11/5 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 11/11 - NO SCHOOL: Veterans Day
- 11/12 - 10:45 Early Dismissal: P/T Conferences

BY THE NUMBERS

In this section we will talk about the numbers of our fundraisers; the good, the bad and the most up to date as possible!

- ◆ Our Little Caesars Pizza Kit Sale begins TODAY! Sale Ends 10/7. See the flyer electronically & with your hard copy along with the brochure.
- ◆ Our candy bar sale will begin soon! Be on the look out for our electronic order form. We sell Gertrude Hawk Chocolate Bars and the options are all delicious!
- ◆ Did you know that St. Mary of the Assumption participates in Amazon Smile? A portion of your sale can be donated to our School/Church and all you have to do is select us! This quarter we have received \$74.34!
- ◆ We also participate with Boxtops 4 Education. See the flyer attached electronically today for more information!



NURSE NOTES - WHEN IT'S OK TO RETURN TO SCHOOL

From the DOH : We received strong feedback from local pediatricians who say that parents are not clear on return-to-school guidance; some parents insist that their child be seen by a physician and get a doctor's note as the only way to return to school. A negative FDA-approved NAAT COVID-19 test result can be provided to the school either by a parent/guardian with or without a doctor's note. However, a doctor's note is NOT required if the child has a negative COVID-19 NAAT test, has been fever-free without medication for 24 hours and other symptoms are improving.

Determining when children can return to school following COVID-19-like illness; one of the following criteria must be met:

1. A negative FDA approved NAAT COVID-19 test result is provided to the school either by a parent/guardian *or* medical care provider. A NAAT test is a Nucleic Acid Amplification Test, such as a polymerase chain reaction or PCR. In this instance, a doctor's note is not required. In addition, the student must be fever free for at least 24 hours and other symptoms improving; OR
2. **There** have been at least 10 days since the onset of COVID-19 symptoms. In this instance, a doctor's note is not required; OR
3. A Health Care Provider provides a signed note reporting a diagnosis of a known chronic condition with unchanged symptoms, or a confirmed acute illness (laboratory-confirmed influenza, strep-throat) and COVID-19 is not suspected. Such individuals may return to school according to the usual guidelines for that diagnosis.

PE UNIFORMS

We are excited to announce that effective today, our PE ordering has moved to an online store! The store will be open until 9/28. You have the option to ship your items to SME (free delivery) or direct to you (shipping charges will occur). Orders are expected 7-10 days after the close of the store. As we await the arrival of new orders, your child(ren) can wear plain navy blue/black shorts and a plain navy/white t-shirt to gym class. Once we know that all orders have been distributed, failure to adhere to the uniform policy will result in uniform infractions.

<http://sm-gym.allstarsgear.com/>

Reminder: Our online store closes on 9/28

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VOLUNTEERING

As an update to last week's NewsNote:

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 are in need of assistance with our Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser. Please see the flyer coming home today for more information!

We apologize for the confusion and appreciate your patience & understanding as we work to keep our school safe.





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

This week, a Scrip information packet is coming home to every family. After reviewing it, please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions. The brown envelope is what you can use to send your orders in to school with your child, and what your gift cards will be sent home to you in.

Be sure to enroll in online payments (PrestoPay) to receive your eGift cards and reloads to your physical gift cards faster, and to download the Raise Right Fundraising app!



Great Lakes is now also accepting credit cards as payment (**for online orders only!**)

There is a locked box in the church foyer and outside the main school office so that you can drop off orders whenever it is convenient for you!

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

Mary Kate DeMarzio & Joe Magiera
Scrip Coordinators

NURSE NOTES - TRAVELING

If anyone will be traveling in the future, out of state, there are no requirements for isolation or quarantine due to Covid-19 per the Erie County Department of Health and St. Mary's School.

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

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

KITCHEN NEWS

Included electronically today is a copy of the application for Free/Reduced Lunches.

Applications should be returned ASAP
Attn: Kitchen Manager



CALENDAR CLUB

Renewals of the 2021 Calendar Club for 2022 will run through October 1st, and then sales will open up for new customers.

Please watch the NewsNotes for more information, or contact Jessica Kulpit at jesskulpit@gmail.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 in October (can be done from home).



Watch the NewsNotes for more information, or contact the chairs: Amanda Barton & Jenny Sparmo at Jennifer.sparmo@gmail.com, or (716) 713-0719.

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!

We have included a list of the events and fundraisers that we plan to hold throughout the year at St. Mary's in this week's NewsNotes. 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!

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Are you a parent / grandparent with a few hours to spare during the lunch hour?

We are looking to add a volunteer to our lunch monitor crew. If you are interested please contact Mrs. Kuhn (secretary@smeschool.com) for more information! Proof of vaccination is required.

PARENT PORTAL

Parent Portal accounts have been created for all new families Kindergarten - Grade 8.

Please refer to the email you received and follow the directions within it.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Nancy Jezuit (jezuitn@smeschool.com).

SME GEAR STORE

We will be opening our SME Gear store in October!

This online store will include:

- 1/4 zip tech shirts (uniform approved, cold weather apparel)
- Hoodies (uniform approved, cold weather apparel)
- Long sleeve t-shirts (not to be worn as a uniform top)
- Baseball Caps
- Winter Knit caps & masks!

Keep your eye out for the link to the store in the 10/6 NewsNote!

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (PTA)



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).

FRIDAY MASS

It was wonderful to have a portion of our students back in Church celebrating our Friday Mass. The mass was lead by our teachers and we look forward to our student led masses beginning this week!



Thank you to the parents that joined via live stream as well!
<https://stmarysonthehill.org/live-stream/>

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.



Please take a scroll through our electronic version of the NewsNote for information & flyers from area high schools.

NOTICES

Pesticide products may be used periodically throughout the school year. If you are interested in receiving advance notification of any pesticide usage please contact Mrs. Kwitowski.

We are offering free weekly/monthly COVID 19 testing to any student whose parents would like to have them tested. If you are interested in the testing, please contact Mrs. Kwitowski at kwitowskik@smeschool.com.

STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: 9/24 Due Date: P/S Handbook Sign-Off Page

Save the Date: 9/24 Due Date: Walkabout Permission Slip

Save the Date: 10/1 15min Early Release Drill

Save the Date: 10/8 No School

Save the Date: 10/11 No School

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



Fundraiser Announcement

We're raising money for St. Mary's Elementary

It's time for you, your friends, and your family to stock up with **Little Caesars® Pizza Kits!** Have them on hand for quick dinners, parties or entertaining!

How: Fill out the top portion of your order form with your name and your preferred contact phone number (cell phone numbers preferred). Collect payment at the time you take orders. We may accept cash or checks made payable to:

St Mary's HSA

You may also order and pay online by credit card:



- Go to **www.PizzaKit.com**
- Got to **Products** then click on **Shop**
- Select **Ship My Order to the Group** (All Kits ordered online are delivered to the organization on delivery day.)

Our Fundraiser ID # is 395304

When:

Order form and payment due: **10/7/2021** (Late orders will **NOT** be accepted.)

Week of Pizza Kit Pickup: **10/25/2021**

Where:

Pickup will be at: **St. Mary's**

Please pick up your Pizza Kits as soon as possible as we do not have onsite storage.

We are not responsible for orders that are not picked up on delivery day.

Volunteers Needed!

We'll also need several helpers on the day of delivery to help sort orders. Please call or email for details.

Chairperson Name: Kristie May

Chairperson Email Address: hsa@smeschool.com

Thank you for your support and participation! Have fun!

KK

Letter to Parents for School Meal Programs

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **St. Mary's Elementary** offers healthy meals every school day. Lunch costs **\$3.50**. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. As of July 1, 2019 students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive lunch at no charge.

1. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: **St. Mary's Elementary**.
2. WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS? All children in households receiving benefits from **SNAP, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations** or **TANF**, can get free meals regardless of your income. Categorical eligibility for free meal benefits is extended to all children in a household when the application lists an Assistance Program's case number for any household member. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Households with children who are categorically eligible through an Other Source Categorically Eligible designation, as defined by law, may be eligible for free benefits and should contact the SFA for assistance in receiving benefits.
3. CAN FOSTER CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court, are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income. Foster children may also be included as a member of the foster family if the foster family chooses to also apply for benefits for other children. Including children in foster care as household members may help other children in the household qualify for benefits. If non-foster children in a foster family are not eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits, an eligible foster child will still receive free benefits.
4. CAN HOMELESS, RUNAWAY, AND MIGRANT CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Yes, children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail **St. Mary's Elementary** to see if they qualify.
5. WHO CAN GET REDUCED PRICE MEALS? Your children may be approved as reduced price eligible if your household income is within the reduced-price limits on the Federal Eligibility Income Chart, shown on this letter. Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive lunch no charge.
6. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school at **[phone number]** if you have questions.
7. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT ANOTHER ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for up to the first 30 operating days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
8. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILD(REN) GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out a FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEAL application.
9. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes and we may also ask you to send written proof.
10. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
11. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing.
12. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
13. WHO SHOULD I INCLUDE AS MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD? You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.
14. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
15. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE INCLUDE OUR HOUSING ALLOWANCE AS INCOME? If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.
16. MY SPOUSE IS DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE. IS HER COMBAT PAY COUNTED AS INCOME? No, if the combat pay is received in addition to her basic pay because of her deployment and it wasn't received before she was deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information.
17. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for **SNAP** or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call **1-800-342-3009**.

**2021-2022 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS OR FREE MILK**

REDUCED PRICE ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART

Total Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$ 23,828	\$ 1,986	\$ 993	\$ 917	\$ 459
2	\$ 32,227	\$ 2,686	\$ 1,343	\$ 1,240	\$ 620
3	\$ 40,626	\$ 3,386	\$ 1,693	\$ 1,563	\$ 782
4	\$ 49,025	\$ 4,086	\$ 2,043	\$ 1,886	\$ 943
5	\$ 57,424	\$ 4,786	\$ 2,393	\$ 2,209	\$ 1,105
6	\$ 65,823	\$ 5,486	\$ 2,743	\$ 2,532	\$ 1,266
7	\$ 74,222	\$ 6,186	\$ 3,093	\$ 2,855	\$ 1,428
8	\$ 82,621	\$ 6,886	\$ 3,443	\$ 3,178	\$ 1,589
*Each Add'l person add	\$ 8,399	\$ 700	\$ 350	\$ 324	\$ 162

How to Apply: To get free or reduced price meals for your children carefully complete one application following the instructions for your household and return it to the designated office listed on the application. If you now receive SNAP, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) for any children or participate in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the application must include the children's names, the household SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member. All children should be listed on the same application. If you do not list a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number for any household member, the application must include the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member, and how often it is received and where it comes from. It must include the signature of an adult household member and the last four digits of that adult's social security number or check the box if the adult does not have a social security number. **An application for free and reduced price benefits cannot be approved unless complete eligibility information is submitted, as indicated on the application and in the instructions.** Contact your local Department of Social Services for your SNAP or TANF case number or complete the income portion of the application. No application is necessary if the household was notified by the SFA their children have been directly certified. If the household is not sure if their children have been directly certified, the household should contact the school.

Reporting Changes: The benefits that you are approved for at the time of application are effective for the entire school year and up to 30 operating days into the new school year (or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first). You no longer need to report changes for an increase in income or decrease in household size, or if you no longer receive SNAP.

Income Exclusions: The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care Development (Block Grant) Fund should not be considered as income for this program.

Reduced Price Eligible Students: Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals and snacks served through the Afterschool Snack Program at no charge.

In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability

Meal Service to Children with Disabilities: Federal regulations require schools and institutions to serve meals at no extra charge to children with a disability which may restrict their diet. A student with a disability is defined in 7CFR Part 15b.3 of Federal regulations, as one who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual, a record of such an impairment or being regarded as having such an impairment. Major life activities include but are not limited to: functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working. You must request meal modifications from the school and provide the school with medical statement from a State licensed healthcare professional. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please get in touch with us for further information, as there is specific information that the medical statement must contain.

Confidentiality: The United States Department of Agriculture has approved the release of students names and eligibility status, without parent/guardian consent, to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of federal education programs such as Title I and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which are United States Department of Education programs used to determine areas such as the allocation of funds to schools, to evaluate socioeconomic status of the school's attendance area, and to assess educational progress. Information may also be released to State health or State education programs administered by the State agency or local education agency, provided the State or local education agency administers the program, and federal State or local nutrition programs similar to the National School Lunch Program. Additionally, all information contained in the free and reduced price application may be released to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) or Child Nutrition Act (CNA); including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, the Special Milk Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program and the Special

Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC); the Comptroller General of the United States for audit purposes, and federal, State or local law enforcement officials investigating alleged violation of the programs under the NSLA or CNA.

Reapplication: You may apply for benefits any time during the school year. Also, if you are not eligible now, but during the school year become unemployed, have a decrease in household income, or an increase in family size you may request and complete an application at that time.

The disclosure of eligibility information not specifically authorized by the NSLA requires a written consent statement from the parent/guardian. We will let you know when your application is approved or denied.

Sincerely,

Tracy Hadsall
Kitchen Manager

Nondiscrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint> and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Date Withdrew _____

F ___ R ___ D ___

2021-2022 Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals/Milk

To apply for free and reduced price meals for your children, read the instructions on the back, complete **only one** form for your household, sign your name and **return it to the address listed below**. Call **683-2112 Ext. 119**, if you need help. Additional names may be listed on a separate paper.

Return Completed Applications to: **St. Mary's Elementary School**
2 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086

1. List all children in your household who attend school:

Student Name	School	Grade/Teacher	Foster Child	Homeless Migrant, Runaway
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Benefits:

If anyone in your household receives either SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits, list their name and CASE # here. **Skip to Part 4, and sign the application.**

Name: _____ CASE #: _____

3. Report all income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'yes' to step 2)

All Household Members (including yourself and all children that have income).

List all Household members not listed in Step 1 (including yourself) **even if they do not receive income**. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total income for each source in whole dollars only. If they do not receive income from any other source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report.

Name of household member	Earnings from work before deductions <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Child Support, Alimony <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Pensions, Retirement Payments <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Other Income, Social Security <i>Amount / How Often</i>	No Income
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Total Household Members (Children and Adults)

*Last Four Digits of Social Security Number: XXX-XX- ____ - ____

I do not have a SS#

*When completing section 3, an adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SS#), or mark the "I do not have a SS# box" before the application can be approved.

4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this application before it can be approved.

I certify (promise) that all the information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the information is being given so the school will get federal funds; the school officials may verify the information and if I purposely give false information, I may be prosecuted under applicable State and federal laws, and my children may lose meal benefits.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Home Address: _____

5. Ethnicity and Race are optional; responding to this section does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (Check one or more) : American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Island White

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

Annual Income Conversion (Only convert when multiple income frequencies are reported on application)
 Weekly X 52; Every Two Weeks (bi-weekly) X 26; Twice Per Month X 24; Monthly X 12

SNAP/TANF/Foster

Income Household: Total Household Income/How Often: _____ / _____ Household Size: _____

Free Meals Reduced Price Meals Denied/Paid

Signature of Reviewing Official _____ Date Notice Sent: _____

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply for free and reduced price meals, complete only one application for your household using the instructions below. Sign the application and return the application to _____.

If you have a foster child in your household, you may include them on your application. A separate application is not needed. Call the school if you need help: _____. Ensure that all information is provided. Failure to do so may result in denial of benefits for your child or unnecessary delay in approving your application.

PART 1 ALL HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE STUDENT INFORMATION. DO NOT FILL OUT MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

- (1) Print the names of the children, including foster children, for whom you are applying on one application.
- (2) List their grade and school.
- (3) Check the box to indicate a foster child living in your household, or if you believe any child meets the description for homeless, migrant, runaway (a school staff will confirm this eligibility).

PART 2 HOUSEHOLDS GETTING SNAP, TANF OR FDPIR SHOULD COMPLETE PART 2 AND SIGN PART 4.

- (1) List a current SNAP, TANF or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) case number of anyone living in your household. The case number is provided on your benefit letter.
- (2) An adult household member must sign the application in PART 4. SKIP PART 3. Do not list names of household members or income if you list a SNAP case number, TANF or FDPIR number.

PART 3 ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE THESE PARTS AND ALL OF PART 4.

- (1) Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get income. Include yourself, the children you are applying for, all other children, your spouse, grandparents, and other related and unrelated people in your household. Use another piece of paper if you need more space.
- (2) Write the amount of current income each household member receives, before taxes or anything else taken out, and indicate where it came from, such as earnings, welfare, pensions and other income. If the current income was more or less than usual, write that person's usual income. **Specify how often this income amount is received: weekly, every other week (bi-weekly), 2 x per month, monthly. If no income, check the box.** The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care and Development Block Grant, TANF and At Risk Child Care Programs should **not** be considered as income for this program.
- (3) Enter the total number of household members in the box provided. This number should include all adults and children in the household and should reflect the members listed in PART 1 and PART 3.
- (4) The application must include the last four digits only of the social security number of the adult who signs **PART 4** if Part 3 is completed. If the adult does not have a social security number, check the box. **If you listed a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR number, a social security number is not needed.**
- (5) An adult household member must sign the application in PART 4.

OTHER BENEFITS: Your child may be eligible for benefits such as Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). To determine if your child is eligible, program officials need information from your free and reduced price meal application. Your written consent is required before any information may be released. Please refer to the attached parent Disclosure Letter and Consent Statement for information about other benefits.

USE OF INFORMATION STATEMENT

Use of Information Statement: The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not submit all needed information, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the primary wage earner or other adult household member who signs the application. The social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs.

We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint), (AD-3027) found online at: <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint> and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEAL APPLICATION FACT SHEET

When filling out the application form, please pay careful attention to these helpful hints.

SNAP/TANF/FDPIR case number: This must be the complete valid case number supplied to you by the agency including all numbers and letters, for example, E123456, or whatever combination is used in your county. Refer to a letter you received from your local Department of Social Services for your case number or contact them for your number.

Foster Child: A child who is living with a family but who is under the legal care of the welfare agency or court may be listed on your family application. List the child's "personal use" income. This includes only those funds provided by the agency which are identified for the personal use of the child, such as personal spending allowances, money received by his/her family, or from a job. Funds provided for housing, food and care, medical, and therapeutic needs are not considered income to the foster child. Write "0" if the child has no personal use income.

Household: A group of related or non-related people who are living in one house and share income and expenses.

Adult Family Members: All related and non-related people who are 21 years of age and older living in your house.

Financially Independent: A person is financially independent and a separate economic unit/household when his or her earnings and expenses are not shared by the family/household. Separate economic units in the same residence are characterized by prorating expenses and by economic independence from one another.

Current Gross Income: Money earned or received at the present time by each member of your household before deductions. Examples of deductions are federal tax, State tax, and Social Security deductions. If you have more than one job, you must list the income from all jobs. If you receive income from more than one source (wage, alimony, child support, etc.), you must list the income from all sources. Only farmers, self-employed workers, migrant workers, and other seasonal employees may use their income for the past 12 months reported from their 1040 Tax Forms.

Examples of gross income are:

- Wages, salaries, tips, commissions, or income from self-employment
- Net farm income – gross sales minus expenses only – not losses
- Pensions, annuities, or other retirement income including Social Security retirement benefits
- Unemployment compensation
- Welfare payments (does not include value of SNAP)
- Public Assistance payments
- Adoption assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Survivor's Benefits
- Alimony or child support payments
- Disability benefits, including workman's compensation
- Veteran's subsistence benefits
- Interest or dividend income
- Cash withdrawn from savings, investments, trusts, and other resources which would be available to pay for a child's meals
- Other cash income

Income Exclusions: The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care Development (Block Grant) Fund should not be considered as income for this program.

If you have any questions or need help in filling out the application form, please contact:

Name: Tracy Hadsall Title: Kitchen Manager

Telephone Number: 683-2112 x119



Become Part of the St. Mary's Family!

Open House

Thurs. Sept. 30th from 5 to 8 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 1st from 5 to 7 p.m.



**Preregistration required at smhlancers.org
Reserve your time slot today!**

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

Preparing young men and women for college and beyond.



CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL

JESUIT PREPARATION *for* COLLEGE...FOR LIFE

Canisius High School – Important Events & Dates

We would be grateful for you to share the following information with your students' families to help them with fall planning and their decision on selecting the right high school.

OPEN HOUSE *for prospective students and families*

Sunday October 17th & Tuesday October 19th 2021

Canisius High School will offer our annual Fall Open House for prospective students.

Registration is limited and pre-registration is required. Parents may reserve an Open House visit time at canisiushigh.org/openhouse.

PRIVATE TOURS *for students in grades 6, 7 & 8*

Families who would prefer a private tour on a non-open-house date are welcome to request a tour at canisiushigh.org/tours.

CRUSADER FOR THE DAY PROGRAM *for students in grade 8*

A prospective student can be a Crusader For The Day to experience Canisius on a school day.

Space is limited. Learn more at canisiushigh.org/visit or call 716.200.0236 to schedule your day.

ENTRANCE EXAM TUTORIAL COURSE *for students in grade 8*

The Entrance Exam Tutorial Course will be held at Canisius High School on three

Saturdays leading up to the Entrance Exam. Course dates are October 30, November 6,

and November 13 from 9:00 to 11:30am. Class sizes are small and focus on individual attention.

Register at canisiushigh.org/examcourse.

ENTRANCE & SCHOLARSHIP EXAM *for students in grade 8*

All prospective applicants for the Class of 2026 should take the Catholic High School Entrance & Scholarship Exam on Saturday, November 20, 2021. All students must register to take the

Entrance and Scholarship Exam by completing an application for admission [HERE](#). Parents that

have any questions regarding the exam may contact me directly at 716.882.0466 x205 or

weislo@canisiushigh.org.

For additional information, please visit www.canisiushigh.org.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Tom Weislo

Canisius High School

Director of Admission