

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 14 JANUARY 4, 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

St. Mary’s Families,

As we turn another calendar page and venture together into the new year, I wanted to reflect back on the first portion of the school year before looking with hope to the future.

One of our school goals has been to grow as Social and Emotional educators and learners. Using what we learned at a staff professional development session and through accessing other available resources, our teachers have grown their instruction to be more responsive, inclusive, and comprehensive. Additionally, next Friday, January 13, our staff will attend another professional development session that will again fall under the Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) umbrella. We have grown in planned, measured, and meaningful ways. I’m proud and excited to report that we continue to work on meeting this goal.

Another tangible way SME has grown as a school that promotes SEL is through evolving the Christian Witness Award. Each month, we focus on and highlight a specific trait as a whole school. Most recently, we concentrated on the gifts of joy and patience, and our school will learn more about the gift of peace throughout January. In addition to directly teaching and modeling these characteristics, by focusing on specific traits, a goal is to incite enthusiasm in ALL students and recognize valuable traits that may otherwise have gone uncelebrated. In this way, our Christian Witness Award has grown into a genuine celebration of some of the best parts of some of the people who build our community!

As we all continue to grow together, I wonder if we can look to some younger members of our community who will be recognized as models of patience at this Friday’s Christian Witness Mass. As we uphold our rigorous academic standard and welcome back our sports and extracurricular activities and clubs, we will undoubtedly require each other’s patience, understanding, and grace. While growth may be uneasy and uncomfortable at times, a stronger, more resilient future awaits.

Finally, speaking of a promising and exciting future: Our 2023 Pre-K and Kindergarten Open House will be held on January 19th, from 6:00 - 7:30. If you know of a family who may love SME as much as you do, please consider extending an invitation and sharing our good news! Our incredible pre-K and Kindergarten team will host another wonderful evening serving our community and welcoming future families and St. Mary’s Knights.

God Bless and Happy New Year,
Mr. O



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **1/5** - Bills Dress Down for \$1
- **1/6** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30 (December recipients)
- **1/13 - 10:45 Early Dismissal, Staff PD**
- **1/16 - NO SCHOOL, MLK Jr. Day**
- **1/19** - Afterschool Care ends @ 5:00 today!
- **1/19** - Pre-K & Kinder Open House 6-7:30.
- **1/20** - NJHS Induction Mass, 8:30
- **1/30 - 2/3** - Catholic Schools Week
- **2/1** - Progress Report Upload
- **2/3** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- **2/7** - Open House 6:00 -8pm
- **2/20-2/24 - NO SCHOOL:** Mid Winter Recess

BY THE NUMBERS

RaiseRight:

Sales office open for walk-ins every:
Tuesday 9:00-12:00
Wednesday 12:30-2:30
Friday 8:00am-12:00pm

The office is located within the Faith Formation office in the school building. Please come to our main door #1 to be buzzed in.

2022 Calendar Club:
\$18,800 collected (940 Calendars Sold)
(\$9,065) Prizes
(\$1,741.76) expenses
\$7,993.24 Net Profit

Year round ways to help:

- ◇ Boxtops 4 Education
- ◇ Amazon Smile (search for St. Mary of the Assumption) November Deposit: \$86.05
- ◇ RaiseRight Program



PARENT T-SHIRTS

SME Parent T-Shirts are available for purchase anytime!



Shirts are \$10.00 and can be ordered here:
<https://forms.gle/ozf8ihiapbUkd2Lw5>

Also available anytime:
Car Magnets & Shirt Patches for \$1 each.

Please send payments Attn: Mrs. Kuhn
Orders will be distributed upon receipt of payment.

CALENDAR CLUB 2023

Did the end of the year sneak up on you and you missed your chance to order a calendar?

Fear not! There are a small number of calendars left and are available first come first serve!

For a \$20 donation you have the chance to win every day of the year!

The order form can be found here:
<https://www.smeschool.com/documents/2022-2023/Calendars/10-19%20NN%20Add%20On%20%20Calendar%20Club%20Flyer.pdf>

Questions: calendarclub@smeschool.com

A list of winning numbers is posted on our website’s NewsNote tab by month.

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Daily cash prizes will be awarded
December 25, 2021-January 5, 2022.

Winners will be contacted after
January 5th.



HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Looking ahead...

Keep your eye on the NewsNote for more details as the events draw near!

- 2/10 - Loaded Lumber / Paint Night Event
- February (dates TBD): Spring Chocolate Sale
- 3/24 - Mother/Son Event
- April - Meat Raffle
- 5/5 - Penny Fair

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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



COVID TEST KITS

While we have not seen an uptick in Covid cases here at SME, we do have a surplus supply of Covid-19 test kits.

If you would like test kits to be sent home with your child, please email Mrs. Kuhn.

MEGA RAFFLE

The Mega Raffle will be held on Friday, June 9th and is LIVE & IN PERSON!! To ensure that the event is a success, and to welcome back our guests who have missed the live event the past 3 years, we are in need of additional committee members to help with the planning.

The next planning meeting will be via Zoom in January.

If you would like to be added to the meeting, or would like more information, please email megaraffle@smeschool.com.

Help is needed in the following areas:

- ♦ Bankers (2 ppl): sit in a secure room and handle the money
- ♦ Bar (4-8 ppl): reach out to vendors for donations, order the beer/wine/cups, brew coffee, serve drinks during the event
- ♦ Decorations (1-2 ppl): order & pick up balloons, assist with set-up the night before the event, wash tablecloths after the event
- ♦ Food/drinks (1-2 ppl): order pizza, pick up pop, make sure cups/plates/napkins are available/ordered
- ♦ Raffle baskets/donations (1-4 ppl): reach out to businesses for donations, assist with basket assembly for the event, sell tickets during the event

EXCUSES

Please remember to send in an excuse note upon the return of your child's absence.



CALENDAR REMINDERS

Friday 1/13 is a **10:45 Early Dismissal** with **NO** afterschool care available.

Monday 1/16 there is **NO SCHOOL** in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr day.

Thursday 1/19 Afterschool Care will end at **5** to prepare for open house

Please be sure to mark those dates accordingly and plan appropriately for any end of day pick ups.

RAISERIGHT

RaiseRight walk-in office hours are Tuesday from 9-12, Wednesday from 12:30-2:30 & Friday from 8-12. The brown envelope that you received in September 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.

To expand our selling hours we could use a few more volunteers! If you are interested in learning more about that, please email raiseright@smeschool.com.

To use the RaiseRight app on your mobile device, please email raiseright@smeschool.com to receive the enrollment code.

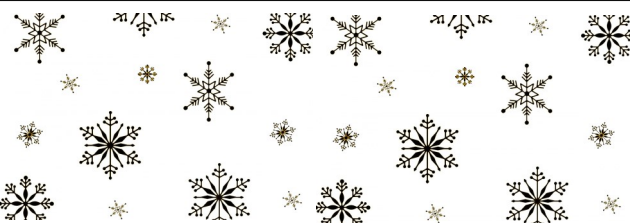
If you have any questions, please email raiseright@smeschool.com. We thank you for your support of the RaiseRight Program!

BILLS DRESS DOWN DAYS

The Athletics department will be hosting their final Bills themed dress down days on Thursday 1/5.

For a minimum donation of \$1/day students can be a part of the fandamonium! Funds raised will benefit the athletics program.

Students choosing not to participate are expected to be in their regular school uniform.

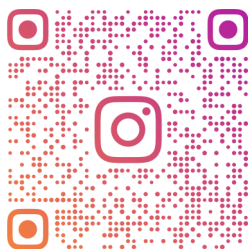


REGISTRATION

Re-Registration is just around the corner! Once ready, packets will go home with our students ahead of being available to the public so keep your eye out!



We're on Instagram!



ST.MARYSELEMENTARYSCHOOL

CALENDAR CLUB



We will once again run the Calendar Club fundraiser for the 2023 calendar year.

With 365 days of prizes there is over \$10,000 to be won!

Upon the receipt of your \$20 donation, your name and number will be registered for all drawings for the year 2023. Winning numbers will be physically drawn monthly at St. Mary's Rectory and will be published monthly on the parish & school websites.

Please see the order form on the NewsNote tab of the website to reserve yours today!



You can reach
Nurse Dara Sirianni, RN at:
nurse@smeschool.com
716-683-2112 x128
Health Office Hours
9:30am-1:00pm



8TH GRADE INFO

Did you know that you can drop off your cans & bottles to any Cash for Cans location and they can be donated to our 8th grade class?!

No need to wait for them to be processed, just tape a big paper on it that they are for St. Mary's Elementary - Lancaster (2112) and drop them off by their donation bin!



STAY IN THE KNOW



Make Note: 1/13 10:45 Early Dismissal, Staff Development

Make Note: 1/16 No School: MLK Jr. Day

Save the Date : 2/10 Paint Night event

Save the Date : 3/24 Mother/Son Event

Make Note:

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

**Jan,
2023**

Student lunches are **\$3.50**, and adult lunches are **\$5.50**. 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, and Ham/Cheese Sandwiches. Milk is **\$0.50**, and may be prepaid if your student buys milk regularly. **Snack will now be served to all grades during lunchtime. No snack is ever purchased on account. Snack money must be presented at point of sale. Snacks are \$0.25-\$0.75.** If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at kitchenmanager@smeschool.com. We appreciate your support. Tracy Hadsall, Liz Heerd & Jenny Fulcinitti

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Lunch = \$3.50 2 Lunches = \$7.00 3 Lunches = \$10.50 4 Lunches = \$14.00 5 Lunches = \$17.50	6 Lunches = \$21.00 7 Lunches = \$24.50 8 Lunches = \$28.00 9 Lunches = \$31.50 10 Lunches = \$35.00	11 Lunches = \$38.50 12 Lunches = \$42.00 13 Lunches = \$45.50 14 Lunches = \$49.00 15 Lunches = \$52.50	16 Lunches = \$56.00 17 Lunches = \$59.50 18 Lunches = \$63.00 19 Lunches = \$66.50 Cash or Check to SME Change Will Go On Acct	No 'On Account' Snack Purchases Allowed Birthday Snacks for the Class are Paid for Separately, Please!
2 Happy New Year! No School!	3 Beef Crumble over Mashed Potatoes Veggies, Fruit & Milk	4 No Alt B Available Antipasto Salad Garlic Bread Veggies, Fruit & Milk	5 Ramen Bowl (chicken, noodles, veggies) Veggies, Fruit & Milk	6 Mozzarella Sticks Veggies, Fruit & Milk
9 Breakfast Pita Sandwich Egg, Ham & Cheese Veggie, Fruit & Milk	10 Sloppy Joes Tater Tots Veggies, Fruit & Milk	11 No Alt B Available Chicken Caesar Garlic Bread Veggie, Fruit & Milk	12 Mac-n-Cheese Veggies Fruit & Milk	13 Early Dismissal No Lunch Service
16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance No School	17 Popcorn Chicken Veggies Fruit & Milk	18 No Alt B Available Market Salad w/Muffin (apples, berries & bleu cheese) Veggie, Fruit & Milk	19 Loaded Baked Potato Tomato Soup Veggies, Fruit & Milk	20 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Romaine Salad Fruit & Milk
23 WafflePancakeFrenchToast Egg Patty Veggies, Fruit & Milk	24 Taco Pizza Bean Salad Veggies, Fruit & Milk	25 No Alt B Available Chicken Souvlaki Pita Bread Tomato Soup, Fruit & Milk	26 Italiano Incredi Bowl w/Marinara Veggies, Fruit & Milk	27 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Romaine Salad Fruit & Milk
30 Breakfast Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk	31 Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Brown Rice Veggies, Fruit & Milk			

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. 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.

From the Kitchen of St Mary's Elementary

Families & Friends of SME,

We appreciate your support and patronage of our school lunch program. It is a program that we are proud of, and hope to see continue for years to come.

As parents of both current and former SME students ourselves, we have seen firsthand the changes the lunch program has endured. As we continue to improve and plan throughout the school year, we hope that you, the SME Family, buy with confidence and assurance, knowing we are committed to serving only the best, to the best! That's SME!

Daily selections range from freshly made sandwiches and soups, fresh fruits and vegetables and from-scratch entrees. We limit the amount of pre-packaged, pre-assembled items that we serve so that you can feel comfortable knowing that your student is eating healthier at lunchtime.



Daily lunches are just one of the many offerings available to you.

Your student can celebrate a birthday with his or her class by enjoying one of our many allergy friendly, baked, reduced fat or whole grain snacks.

Volunteering in the cafeteria? We would love to serve you a freshly-made Julienne salad, mixed berry yogurt parfait, or just a bowl of homemade soup. Email us your order and we will be happy to serve you, and your student!



Our pre-pay plan allows for easy, breezy weekly planning. With a main entrée and five alternate choices offered daily, there are options for every student, every appetite. Lunches can be prepaid with cash or check made out to SME. Account balances are maintained, and notices will be sent out monthly to keep you up-to-date.

We wish our SME family a happy and healthy school year! We look forward to serving you in 2022-2023.

Tracy Hadsall, Liz Heerdts & Jenny Fulciniti

SME Kitchen

kitchenmanager@smeschool.com



St Mary's Elementary Student Menu Favorites

Bflo Chicken Sandwich	Whole Grain Breaded Chicken Patty, Melted Provolone with a Side of Frank's Sauce and Blue Cheese Dressing
Breakfast Sandwich	Whole Grain English Muffin, Scrambled Egg Patty, Slice of American Cheese and Ham
Breakfast Pizza	Whole Grain Pizza Crust topped with Eggs, Cheddar & Mozzarella Cheeses and Real Bacon Crumbles
Baked Pasta & Meatballs	Whole Grain Pasta Baked with Marinara Sauce, Mozzarella Cheese and Mini Meatballs
Chicken Dinner	Chicken pieces lightly battered and baked to a Tasty Crunch served with Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Veggies and Fruit
Chicken Parm	Whole Grain Breaded Chicken Patty, baked with Low Fat Mozzarella Cheese and Marinara Sauce
Chicken Alfredo	Chicken tossed in a delicate Alfredo Sauce, served over Whole Grain Pasta
Chicken Souvlaki	Boneless, Skinless, marinated Chicken Breast grilled and served with fresh Vegetables (sweet peppers, onions, romaine), Feta Cheese and Greek Dressing; served as either an open salad, or stuffed into a Whole Grain Pita Pocket
Calzones	Whole Grain Pocket with Marinara Sauce and Ricotta & Mozzarella Cheeses
Cheese Pizza	Whole Grain Pizza Crust with Tomato Sauce and Low Fat Mozzarella
Chicken Fajitas	Marinated Chicken Breasts sliced and grilled with Sweet Peppers and Onions. Served on a Whole Grain Tortilla with toppings and Brown Rice
Chicken Stir Fry	Boneless, Skinless Chicken Breast marinated in a Teriyaki Sauce, sautéed with Fresh/Frozen Asian Vegetables, served with Brown Rice
Chicken Caesar Salad	Romaine Lettuce topped with lightly seasoned Grilled Chicken Breast, Real Crumbled Bacon, Whole Grain Croutons, Grated Parmesan Cheese and Caesar Dressing
Chicken Incredi Bowl	Chunks of Breaded Chicken and Corn on top of Mashed Potatoes, with Chicken Gravy and melted Cheddar Cheese
Cheeseburger	Hamburger Patty on Whole Grain Bun with Cheese, Condiments on Side
Fish Sandwich	Battered Cod served on a Whole Grain Bun with Cheese. Freshly made Coleslaw is served on the side
French Toast Sticks	Whole Grain French Toast Sticks baked and served with Warm Syrup, Sausage Links and Hash Brown Patty
Grilled Cheese	Whole Grain Bread and American Cheese grilled to a golden crisp, served with Tomato Soup
Goulash	Whole Grain Pasta Baked with Marinara Sauce, Sautéed Onions, Sweet Peppers and Ground Beef
Italiano Incredi Bowl	Risotto (Italian Arborio Rice), Mini Meatballs, Escarole & Northern Beans sprinkled with Parmesan Cheese
Loaded Baked Potato	Fresh, delivered weekly, Russet Potatoes, baked and topped with Steamed Broccoli, melted Cheese and Real Bacon Crumbles
Mozzarella Sticks	Whole Grain Breading over Mozzarella Cheese, baked and served with Marinara Sauce
Mexi Incredi Bowl	Brown Rice served in a Bowl covered with Taco Meat, Corn, Black Beans, Shredded Cheddar Cheese & Taco Sauce
Nachos Grande	Lean Ground Beef spiced with Taco Seasonings, served hot over Whole Grain Tortilla Chips, topped with melted Mild Cheddar Cheese Sauce, with Optional Salsa, Sour Cream and or Hot Sauce
Popcorn Chicken	Whole Grain Breaded Popcorn Chicken Bites baked to a tasty Crunch! Served with Optional BBQ Sauce
Ramen Incredi Bowl	Restaurant Grade Ramen Noodles and Broth, served with a variety of Fresh Veggies
Sweet-n-Sour Chicken	Crunchy Popcorn Chicken tossed in a Sweet Sour Sauce, served over a Bowl of Brown Rice
Turkey Dinner	Sliced Turkey, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Veggies & Cranberry Sauce, and even Fruit Pie! So Grateful are We!
Taco-in-a-Bag	Taco Meat scooped into a Bag of Whole Grain Tortilla Chips with Shredded Cheddar Cheese & Salsa

a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools

