

# NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 9 NOVEMBER 9, 2022

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear SME Families,

In case you would like the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher but have not yet had the opportunity to sign up for a conference, I am beginning with a reminder that **tomorrow is our Parent/Teacher Conference Day**. Please access the signup link that was sent in last week's newsletter and can also be found in this week's message, and select a time slot that works best for you. Remember, conferences can be either in person or via Zoom, if your schedule does not allow you the availability to make it out to the school. If you choose to meet over Zoom, our teachers will generate and share the meeting link to you, so please keep an eye out for a meeting notification in the very near future. Finally, if tomorrow does not work on your end, please contact your child's teacher and she or he will be able to arrange an alternate time to meet and discuss your son's or daughter's progress thus far this year.

Friday, **November 11 is Veterans Day**, a day during which we observe and honor military veterans for their service and sacrifice. During our time away from SME, I encourage all families to discuss the meaning and importance of this federal holiday, so that our students and society's youngest members better understand that Friday is much more than just a day without classes.

I hope to see many at **St. Mary's Craft and Vendor Show** on Saturday, November 12! If your family has some free time, you may consider stopping by the school to walk through and visit some of our 85 vendors! The event is free, and we will have a wide variety of local artisans and vendors on hand, in case anyone is looking to get a head start on their holiday shipping.

Have a wonderful week,  
Mr. Olejniczak



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **11/10 - 10:45 Early Dismissal P/T Conf., NO AFTERSCHOOL CARE**
- **11/11 - NO SCHOOL: Veterans Day**
- **11/12 - Vendor & Craft Fair 9-3:00**
- **11/17 - Bills Dress Down Day \$1**
- **11/18 - Grandparents Mass, Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am**
- **11/22 - Fall Picture Retake Day**
- **11/23-11/25 - Thanksgiving Recess**
- **11/28 - 1:00 Early Dismissal, Staff PD, NO Afterschool Care**
- **12/1-2 - Merry Moose Holiday Shop**
- **12/2 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30**
- **12/8 - Immaculate Conception Mass, 8:30**
- **12/9 - No Mass today**
- **12/23 - Living Nativity**

## BILLS THEMED DRESS DOWN DAYS

The Athletics department will be hosting Bills themed dress down days on the following dates:  
Thursday 11/17, Thursday 12/15 & Thursday 1/5.



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

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

## BY THE NUMBERS

### RaiseRight:

Sales office open for walk-ins every:  
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.

### Little Caesars (HSA):

Profit: \$1542.00

### Heart & Home (HSA):

Profit: \$2029.80

### Year round ways to help:

- ◊ Boxtops 4 Education
- ◊ Amazon Smile (search for St. Mary of the Assumption)
- ◊ 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.

## SME GEAR ONLINE STORE

The SME Gear store will be open by the end of the day today! The store will be open from 11/16-11/30 and will have the option of direct delivery or ship to school for distribution with your child. Items will be ready for shipping on 12/16. If you have a special pick up request, please contact Mrs. Kuhn to arrange that.

**Online Store Link:** Will be emailed this afternoon once received from All-Stars Gear.

**Open: 11/16 - 11/30/22**

**Ships: 12/16**

We also have several logo items available via cash & carry.  
The form to order those items is: <https://forms.gle/jHfsmzSQBZNNjgNr5>  
Items are first come first serve and will be released upon payment received.

## HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Thank you to all that joined us for the My Little Sweetheart Dance!

Photos are available for download now via Mrs. Tanski's website:

<https://kellytanskiphotography.pixieset.com/sme2022/>

The link will be live until November 13th.

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 events & fundraisers throughout the school year. Please keep your eye on the NewsNote, opportunities to help throughout the year will be noted here. There will be options of behind the scenes work as well as in-house hands on jobs.

Here is a snapshot of what is left this fall...

### November:

Craft & Vendor Fair 11/12 (9-3)

**Middle school students interested in earning service hours & families can sign up to assist here:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4CADA923A2FF2-fall>

**Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser:** Order Pick up is scheduled for **Tuesday, 11/15**. Orders can be picked up anytime beginning at 10:30am. If your order is manageable it can/will be sent home with your child unless otherwise directed. All orders must be picked up by 5:30 pm. If you are unable to pick up on that day please contact Mrs. Kuhn.

**Heart & Home Holiday Gift Fundraiser:** Thank you to those that participated in this sale. Please keep your eye on the NewsNote for the exact delivery date. Items are set to ship out to us 11/22. Items will be distributed with your child unless otherwise directed once received.

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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.



## RAISERIGHT

RaiseRight walk-in office hours are each Wednesday from 12:30-2:30 & Friday from 8:00-12:00.

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!

## SME/FF CHRISTMAS GIVING PROJECT

The giving season is upon us! This season we are partnering with Saint Mary of the Assumption's parish Faith Formation program to help the homeless. Please consider donating new adult-sized athletic socks and/or travel-sized toiletries. Stockings of Hope will be distributed to the homeless shelters in December. Donations can be brought to school and will be collected in the classrooms.

We are collecting:

- \* New Adult Sized Athletic Socks
- \* New Toothbrushes
- \* Travel-sized toothpaste
- \* Unisex Deodorant
- \* Travel-sized body wash
- \* Travel-sized hand sanitizer



ALL DONATIONS ARE DUE BY  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING  
IN THIS CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY!

## RED RIBBON WEEK

SME Middle School students designed posters for Red Ribbon Week. Students completed sketches and selected the best idea for their final poster. Final posters needed to include the slogan "Celebrate Life. Live Drug Free". Middle School Artists used simple imagery with a positive message, large bold lettering and filled the paper-leaving minimal white space.

SME faculty and staff judged the posters, selecting their top 3 posters from each grade level. Posters with the highest percentage of votes received 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each grade level. Winners were awarded with certificates of achievement and dress down passes to be used in November. Additionally, The SME Home School Association donated e-gift cards to each of the winners. (1st place-\$20/Regal Entertainment Group, 2nd place-\$10/Subway, 3rd place-\$5/Dunkin'). Thank you HSA!!

*Congratulations to ALL Middle School Students, you each did an amazing job. Be sure to check out the posters on display in the main hall.*

### 6th GRADE WINNERS

- 1st place - Aiden J.
- 2nd place - Allie D.
- 3rd place - Kayla K.

### 7th GRADE WINNERS

- 1st place - Brody P.
- 2nd place - Emily G.
- 3rd place - Samantha R.

### 8th GRADE WINNERS

- 1st place - Amaya B.
- 2nd place - Tara P.
- 3rd place - Hope W.

## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER

Get your tickets for the 12 days of Christmas you sure don't want to miss this. We have lots of prizes which make fun surprises, but you've gotta be in it to win it!

Additional tickets are available by request in the school office. Thank you & good luck!



## 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 committee will be meeting via Zoom on  
Tuesday, November 8th at 3:30PM.

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

## AFTERSCHOOL CARE 11/28

Due to Staff Development on Monday 11/28 there will be NO AFTERSCHOOL CARE available.

Please be sure to make arrangements for your children to be picked up or take the bus home that day.

We appreciate your understanding.

## 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!



## 8TH GRADE INFO

Thank you to those that participated in the 8th grade Poinsettia & Wreath Fundraiser.

Poinsettias will be available for pick up on Tuesday, November 29th. Wreaths can be picked up from Kate's Country Cousins on Broadway from November 28th until December 2nd. (Mon - Fri hours 10-7). You will receive a voucher as proof of purchase to present there.

thank you



## NURSE NOTES

You can reach  
Nurse Dara Sirianni, RN at:

nurse@smeschool.com  
716-683-2112 x128

Health Office Hours  
9:30am-1:00pm

## STAY IN THE KNOW



**Make Note:** 11/10 10:45 Early Dismissal P/T Conferences

**Make Note:** 11/11 No School Veterans Day

**Make Note:** 11/22 (all grades) Fall Picture Retake Day

**Make Note:** 11/28 No Afterschool Care

**Save the Date :** 12/23  
Living Nativity 7pm in the Church



# St. Mary's High School

## Lancaster, NY



# St. Mary's At a Glance...

**94.87**  
average  
student-athlete  
GPA

**86%**  
of students  
participate in at  
least one extra-  
curricular activity

**\$14 M**  
in college  
scholarships  
earned by the  
Class of 2022

**73%**  
of SMHS students  
participate in at  
least one of 23  
different sports on  
one of 29  
competitive teams

**16:1**  
student-to-teacher  
ratio

**11 AP**  
courses offered,  
and 73% of our  
graduates leave  
SMHS with at  
least one AP credit

## SMHS Clubs

- Art Club
- Boardgaming & Computer Club
- Campus Ministry
- Chess Club
- Dance Club
- Donate Life Club
- Environmental Club
- Film Club
- Glee Club
- Handbell Ensemble
- Marian Gazette (School newspaper)
- Masterminds
- Mock Trial
- Modern Band
- National Honor Society
- Photography Club
- Praise Band
- Respect Life Club
- Retreat Peer Ministry
- SADD
- Science Olympiad
- Student Senate
- Tech Crew
- Yearbook

## Tuition & Scholarships

St. Mary's believes an investment in a child's education should be affordable, and that every qualified student should have the opportunity to become a Lancer.

To make a quality education affordable, St. Mary's High School:

- Keeps tuition affordable
- Offers over 35 scholarships to incoming freshmen
- Offers a Tuition Assistance/Financial Aid Program
- Provides a Student Work Program

**The tuition assistance deadline is Dec. 31, 2022.**

For assistance, please contact Melanie Adams, Director of Tuition & Financial Aid, at 684-4824 ext. 326 or email [madams@smhlancers.org](mailto:madams@smhlancers.org).

## Transportation

If you live within 15 miles of St. Mary's High School, your local district will provide transportation. St. Mary's has students from over 35 different townships. Students must apply for transportation by April 1st with their district.

City of Buffalo residents get to campus via the Metro Bus system. Bus passes are given to students at the beginning of each school year.

**Southtowns and Northtowns residents** are provided special transportation in the mornings. Please contact Andrea Drabik at [adrabik@smhlancers.org](mailto:adrabik@smhlancers.org) for more details.



**Start Your High School  
Journey Here!**

**HSPT  
Entrance  
Exam  
Exam: Nov. 19th**



**St. Mary's High School**  
Lancaster, NY

# The Academies at St. Mary's High School

In an ongoing effort to innovate and advance the school's college-preparatory curriculum, St. Mary's High School is proud to announce **The Academies at St. Mary's High School** will begin at the start of the 2022-23 school year.

This pioneering initiative will allow students to participate in a focused area of study, similar to a college major, during their sophomore, junior, and senior year with the end goal to achieve a deeper understanding of potential career paths and majors that colleges and universities offer. Students will get a better feel if their chosen "major" is a good fit for them. Freshmen will automatically be enrolled in The Academy of The First Year, giving them the tools to succeed over the next four years of high school.

The Academies will be managed by St. Mary's dedicated faculty, under the guidance of the Dean of Academic Affairs, Mr. Keith Junik, and enhanced by adjunct professors and guest lecturers, including professionals from the school's passionate alumni base, parents, and local and national experts in their fields. The Academies will meet twice weekly for 80 minutes and co-exist with the gold-standard New York State Regents Curriculum and Lancer Life Curriculum currently offered at St. Mary's.

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## The Academies of...

***Business/Entrepreneurship/Finance***  
***Education***  
***Engineering & Experimental Design***  
***Global Citizenship & International Relations***  
***Health & Sciences Professionals***  
***Hospitality & Event Planning***  
***Journalism & Marketing***  
***Law & Criminal Justice***  
***Performing Arts***  
***Visual Arts***  
***The First Year***

### ***The Academies at St. Mary's High School: A Student's Perspective***

1. Register online for a specific Academy at 8 a.m. on a specified date (starting with seniors)
2. Attend lectures/speakers/field trips with your Academy twice a week
3. Complete assigned work/projects throughout the year
4. Decide if you want to continue on in an upper level of the same Academy or register for a new one the following year