

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 19 FEBRUARY 8, 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

Dear SME Families,

The trait St. Mary’s Elementary School will be promoting throughout February is love. Specifically, Christian love, actions we take and our behaviors that exemplify how we should lead our lives.

Perhaps the most popular reading proclaimed at weddings, Paul’s famous letter to the people of Corinth actually did not address romantic love whatsoever; instead, his eloquent message spoke to establishing an ethos for early believers, defining what Christian love looked like on a day-to-day basis.

When examining the verses, one may notice that Paul’s descriptors of love are all verbs: love is marked by actions, and not just romantic lines of poetry or amorous feelings. This month, our teachers and staff will model patience and kindness, while not being envious or boastful. Our school will remind all to not dishonor our neighbors or be self-seeking; rather, we will grow in trust, hopefulness, and perseverance.

Throughout this month - and all of the months - SME will strive to live as daily reminders that *love does not fail*.

Mr. Olejniczak



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Tues. 2/14** - \$ Dress Down for Meat Raffle
- **2/20-2/24** - **NO SCHOOL:** Mid Winter Recess
- **2/22** - Ash Wednesday, Clam Chowder Dinner, 4-6:30pm
- **Fri. 3/3** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- **Tues. 3/7** - Sport/Club Yearbook Photo Day
- **Wed. 3/8** - Spring & Graduation Picture Day
- **Tues. 3/14** - \$ Dress Down for Meat Raffle
- **Fri. 3/17** - **1-:45 Early Dismissal**, Staff PD, *No Afterschool Care Today*
- **Fri. 3/24** - Mother/Son Event 6pm- *Stay Tuned!*

PE ONLINE STORE

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SHOP THE PE ONLINE STORE!

The store will be open until 2/8/23. You once again have the option of direct shipping or having them come to SME. Please be mindful of your selections (child vs. adult) as items are not returnable/exchangeable.

<https://all-stars.printavo.com/merch/st-mary-sgywebstorewinter-2023>



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.

Mega Raffle:

Tickets Sold to date: 332
Tickets Available: 918

*We have sold out 6 of the previous 7 years.
Don't delay... Get your ticket today!*

In Person Event: June 9th
New Venue: St. Mary’s High School

Year round ways to help:

- ◇ Boxtops 4 Education - download the app & scan receipts - it’s that easy!
- ◇ RaiseRight Program



REGISTRATION

Thank you to those who have already secured your spot for the 2023-2024 school year.

An extra special **thank you** to those who have spread the word about our awesome school with friends & family!

Summer Care Information is attached electronically today for those interested families!

SPRING FUNDRAISING

We are excited to offer both Gertrude Hawk & Fowlers Chocolates for our Spring Fundraising!

Gertrude Hawk: Offering both online & paper orders

Sale Begins: 2/1
Sale Ends: 2/17 (paper)
Est. Delivery: Week of 3/20 or 3/26 online orders with direct shipping

Fowlers Chocolates is offering direct shipping (pay S & H) or free delivery to SME.

<https://shop.fowlersfundraising.com/>

Sale Begins: 2/1
Sale Ends: 2/15
Est. Delivery to SME the week of 3/20

Refer to the flyers attached electronically once again this week for more information!



READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK



Read Across America Week is scheduled for February 27th - March 3rd. Reading logs were sent home, so read on!
Special Events:

- Mon. 2/27: Dress as a world traveler
- Tues. 2/28: Wear your PJ’s & bring in your favorite stuffed animal
- Wed. 3/1: Wacky Wednesday - Dress crazy!
- Thurs. 3/2: Dress in stripes or as the cat in the hat!
- Fri. 3/3: This is a uniform day with crazy socks.

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Looking ahead... Keep your eye on the NewsNote for more details as the events draw near!
2/1 - 2/15: Spring Chocolate Sale (Gertrude Hawk & Fowlers) See the fliers attached today!
3/24 - Mother/Son Event
4/29 - Meat Raffle
5/5 - Penny Fair

Parents - We need YOU to ensure our events are successful! See the flyer attached today for more information!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



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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



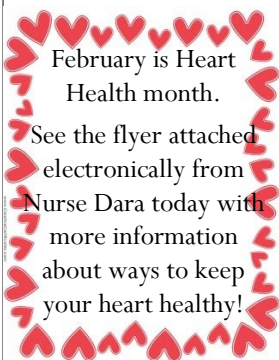
RAISERIGHT

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!



MEGA RAFFLE

To date, **332** tickets have been sold!!

There are still **918** tickets remaining – did you get yours?

We have sold out 6 of the 7 previous years, so be sure to get your tickets soon!

The first Early Bird drawing for \$300 is Wednesday, March 1st.

All orders submitted by 4:00PM on Tuesday, Feb. 28th will be in the first Early Bird drawing.

As a reminder, the Mega Raffle fundraiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. So far, **94** of the tickets have been sold or purchased by school families – thank you for your support!!

Ways to help:

- * Basket Donation wish list: [2023 Mega Raffle](#). (Items ship directly to the school)
- * Posting our flyer at your place of business!
- * Sharing our flyer on social media and/or encouraging multiple people to chip in on one ticket:
<[https://www.smeschool.com/documents/Fundraiserdocs/2023%20Flyer%20Color%20pdf%20hyperlink%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.smeschool.com/documents/Fundraiserdocs/2023%20Flyer%20Color%20pdf%20hyperlink%20(1).pdf)>
- * Volunteer! Areas of need: Bar Staff, Decorating, Food Coordinator, Raffle Baskets, Event Staff

If you are interested in helping out in any way, please contact: megaraffle@smeschool.com.
Our success depends on you!

Ticket Processing Note: Orders will be filled once per week, please be patient if you do not see your ticket come home the day that you send your check in.

The event prize winners will be announced at the **live** drawing on
Friday, June 9th
at
St. Mary's High School



ASH WEDNESDAY - CLAM CHOWDER

We are in need of volunteers - students & adults - to help with our ASH WEDNESDAY CLAM CHOWDER SOUP SUPPER that will take place on Wednesday, February 22nd from 4:00 - 6:30 pm in our Parish Center.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Teens & Adults who are able to cook in the kitchen and/or be on their feet for a few hours ***Kitchen help starts at 3:00 pm**
- Servers are needed to carry out the food on trays (hot soup) from the kitchen to the people sitting at tables (middle schoolers can help with this!) ***Servers need to be here by 3:30 pm**
- Individuals to help clean up (many hands make light work!)

This is a wonderful way to begin the season of Lent!

Please contact Heather Pierce in the rectory to volunteer:
716-683-6445 ext. 14 or
heather@stmarysonthehill.org



BISON FUND

Committed to its mission of making quality education accessible to all, the BISON Fund average scholarship award will be between \$1,500 and a maximum award of \$2,500 for the 2023 -2024 school year.

As we welcome 2023, Bison Fund is currently accepting K-8 pre-applications for funding for the 2023-2024 school year. New families must complete a pre-application form electronically (online) on the Bison Fund website at <http://bisonfund.com/our-scholarships>. The new family deadline is March 15, 2023. Scholarships are awarded using a lottery system from all submitted pre-application forms. All applicants will be notified of lottery results via email on March 16, 2023.

Current families do not need to fill out a pre-application and will be emailed a link to complete the requalification process.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the BISON fund office at 716-854-0869.



COVID TEST KITS

We have a surplus supply of Covid-19 test kits. While the packaging indicates that they have expired, the CDC has extended that date by at least 6 months.

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

MEAT RAFFLE

Save the date for SME's Meat Raffle: April 29th at 7pm.

We are hosting fundraising dress down days which will help purchase items for basket raffles and gift card raffles! \$1 minimum donation: Tues., February 14th, Tues., March 14th, Tues., April 11th

TAX TIME

Have you begun filing your taxes? Is your preparer looking for our Tax ID Number?
The directive given to us by the diocese is to *not* release that number. In its place you can/should indicate **Religious Exemption**. Specific questions can be directed to Mrs. Jezuit: jezuitn@smeschool.com

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!



PARKING LOT SAFETY

We have unfortunately seen an upswing in reckless driving within our campus lot/driveway. While St. Joseph St. is a village street and we have limited control, what we can do is ask that our families use CAUTION AND COURTESY AT ALL TIMES!

Please share this message as needed with friends or family who may also assist you with dropping off or picking up your child(ren).

Following our safe traffic pattern is the first step and we have shared that as a refresher with you this week.

STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: Read Across America Week 2/27-3/3

Make Note: 3/7 Club & Sport Yearbook Photo day

Make Note: 3/8 Spring Photo day

Make Note: 3/17 10:45 Early Dismissal, Staff PD

Save the Date: 3/24 Mother/Son Event

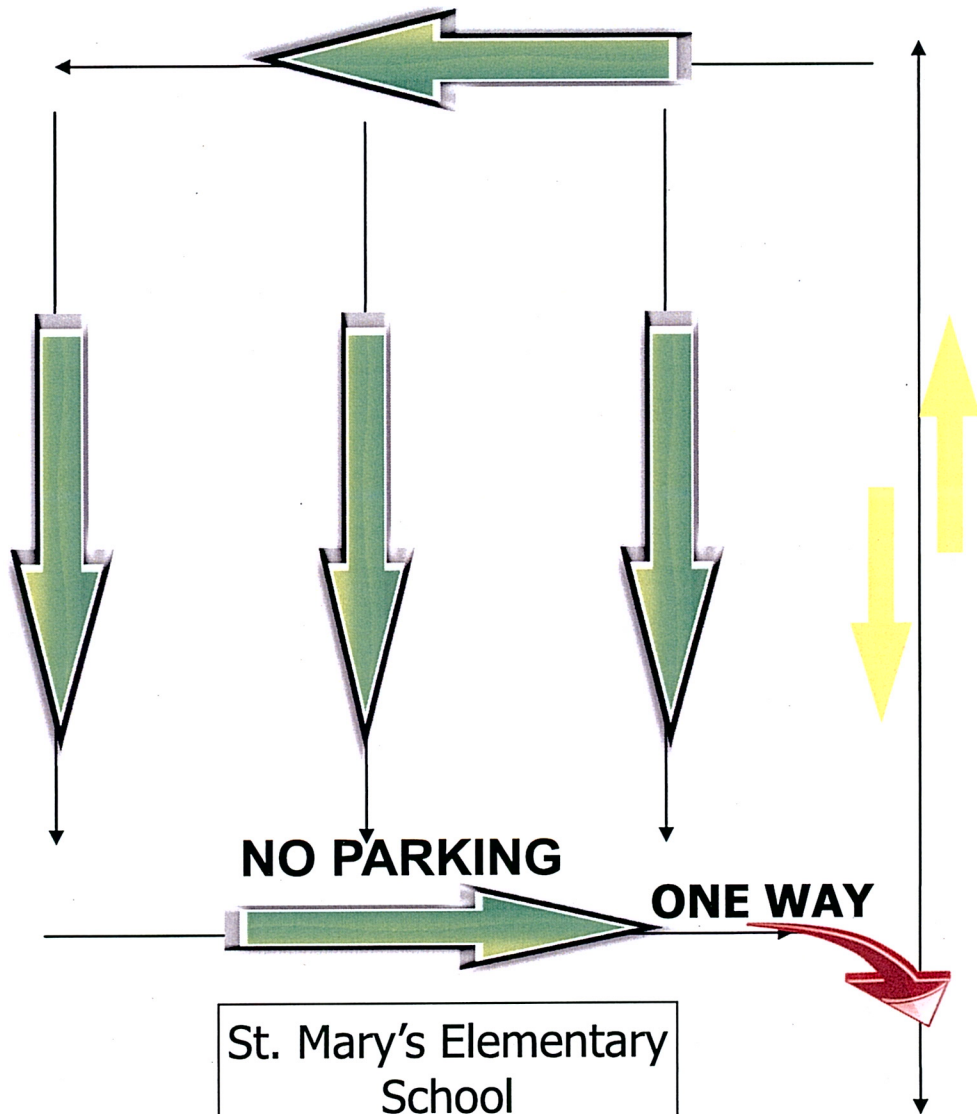
Save the Date: 3/31 Living Stations



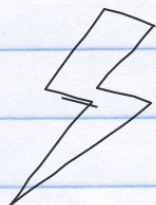
We're on Instagram!

ST.MARYSELEMENTARYSCHOOL

St. Mary of the
Assumption Church



Please adhere to the traffic flow and
KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE!

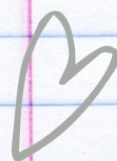


let's have some fun!



THE HSA IS LOOKING FOR YOUR HELP

If you can help with
the Mother/Son Event on
3/24, the Meat Raffle on 4/29
or any HSA event—
please email HSA@smeschool.com





Read Across America Week

Monday, February 27th - Friday, March 3rd 2023

SME Students Schedule of Events & Directions:

- **Caught Read Hatted Raffle** - Some kids long to sneak away and escape inside a book while others need encouragement. We are going to boost book interest by awarding raffle tickets to students “caught” reading for enjoyment. Whenever an SME student gets caught reading a good book during non-instructional times, raffle tickets will be filled out for them and turned into a special container in the office, for Friday’s prize drawing. A winner will be drawn from all the entries at the end of the week to win a prize.
- **Special Guest Readers** - Teachers will contact parents and/or other guest readers to come read to your class this week at times that would be convenient for them.
- **Book Donations** - We are asking every child in the school to donate a new/gently used book. These books will be donated to WNY Foster Closet.
- **Sock Donation** - Students will be asked to donate a pair of socks on Friday. We will conduct a sock drive to both raise awareness of the plight of the homeless and the problem they have from not having new socks. We will donate to a local charity.

Mon. Feb. 27th - Reader’s Oath & “Oh The Places You’ll Go”: SME School will take the Reader’s Oath during the morning announcements to launch Read Across America Week.

*SME students can dress as a world traveler or from their favorite place in the world.

Tues., Feb. 28th - “What Pet Should I Get”: Students bring in their favorite stuffed animal with their favorite pajamas to wear. The children will be watching the Secret Life of Pets

Wed., March 1st - “Wacky Wednesday”: Students can dress mix matched

Thurs., March 2nd - Dr. Seuss’s Birthday- “Cat in the Hat”: Students can dress in stripes and/or as the Cat in the Hat.

Fri., March 3rd - “Fox in Socks”: Students can dress in uniform and wear crazy socks



SPRING CANDY FUNDRAISING

School Name:	_____		
School ID:	_____		
Start Date:	_____	End Date:	_____
(*Fundraiser closes at midnight on last day/no late orders accepted)			

Dear Parents and Students:

We are pleased to offer Fowler's Chocolates as our spring fundraiser.

Fowler's has added some new delicious chocolate goodies, candy treats and adorable stuffed animals all perfect for filling up an Easter basket.

All orders are placed online through a computer by going to shop.fowlersfundraising.com or on the mobile phone app **MyFundR Fundraising** using your child's unique SELLER ID LINK.

You can have out of town family and friends make their purchases and have their orders shipped directly to their home. Shipping charges apply. Ship to school is also an option at no additional charge.

There is no money to collect as all orders are processed with a credit card.

Parents or students must register for an online account to obtain your unique SELLER ID LINK.

How to register your child on a computer:

1. Open your browser to shop.fowlersfundraising.com
2. Sign up for your account using the SCHOOL ID shown at the top of this letter
3. You will be sent an email with your child's unique SELLER ID # and a LINK.
4. Share your child's SELLER ID LINK through emails, texts, and social media with family and friends. This is how they will get to the website to place orders.

How to register your child on a smart phone:

1. Go to the APP Store and download the **MyFundR Fundraising** mobile app on to your phone, or simply scan the QR code to the right.
2. Sign up for your account using the SCHOOL ID shown at the top of this letter
3. You can now place orders or share the catalog right from your smart phone with your unique SELLER ID LINK
4. Your family and friends can order chocolate from the link you provide.





GROUP NAME

Dear Supporters,

We are pleased to offer Gertrude Hawk Chocolates as part of our Fundraising program this year. We are holding a **Spring Chocolate Sale**. It's easy to participate! You can shop the enclosed catalog OR shop online.

Online orders placed within the sale dates can choose to have their orders delivered for free with the main shipment. Out of town friends and family can choose to send their orders directly to their home (shipping fees apply). Simply set up an account and share a link so friends and family can shop our Spring Catalog virtually. **All web orders require credit card payment, that's money YOU DON'T HAVE TO COLLECT!**

If you are submitting a paper order form keep the bottom copy and brochure for your records. **Paper order forms should NOT include any online sales.** Total dollars sent in should equal Grand Total Amount on order form.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Online orders that are being shipped to a home can be placed up until 3/26/23.

Sell and earn prizes! Every student who sells at least ONE ITEM will receive a PRIZE! Levels are based on total sales. If you submit a brochure order and also sell online, **your child's name must match exactly to earn their prize.**

We are Raising Funds For:

Our Fundraiser is From:

Our Organization ID # is:

Estimated Delivery Date:

Parents! Here's how to get started

- Go to fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com
- In the "I am a Parent" block, click **"SEE MY OPTIONS"**
- Click **"START ADDING A SELLER"**
(You'll be prompted to create an account or login)
If you do not have a Gertrude Hawk Chocolates account you must create one to add a seller
- Click **"MY SELLERS"** in the left side column
- **ADD** your seller
- **SAVE** your seller
- Share the **ORGANIZATION ID** above and **SELLER NAME** with family and friends

<https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com/fr-home-new>

<https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com/fr-parent>



Summer 2023

All Day &
FIVE Days A Week

St. Mary's Elementary School

Summer Care

Cost \$50.00 per day/per student - excludes any field trips

Pre-K through 8th Grade

Available 7:00am until 6:00pm FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING



Summer Care program
runs:

June 26th-August 18th

Registration forms, fee,
and calendar/schedule
are due by Friday March
31st.

Questions: bartkowiaka@smeschool.com

- ART
- SCIENCE
- TECHNOLOGY
- CREATIVE MOVEMENT
- FINE MOTOR SKILLS
- GROUP TIME
- CENTER FREE PLAY
- OUTDOOR PLAY TIME

Summer Care includes:

-light breakfast

-2 snacks (one in the morning and one
in the afternoon)!

PLEASE RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS

Payment Contract

Registration form, \$50 per family non-refundable registration payment & calendar are due by Friday, March 31st, 2023. This will secure your spot for Summer Care.

Summer Care runs Monday - Friday, starting Monday, June 26 - Friday, August 18, 2023

Please fill out the calendars provided for June, July and August with the days and times that you will be sending your child(ren). Payment of \$50/day per child is expected the Wednesday prior to the week that you will be sending your child(ren) to Summer Care. Invoices will be sent out the week prior.

If you need to cancel a day, 2 weeks' notice must be given in order to receive a refund for that day. Each child will be allowed ONE excused sick day wherein a refund will be given for that day.

FIELD TRIPS - The children will have the opportunity to participate in several different field trips. Prior to each field trip, a permission slip including any required fees will come home. If you wish for your child(ren) to participate in that field trip you will then return the permission slip and fee.

Included in Summer Care cost: a light breakfast and snacks will be provided. *You MUST send in a lunch for your child and drinks each day they are here.*

Registering Siblings? A 20% discount is added when registering two or more children.

Informed Consent and Acknowledgement

I hereby give my approval for my child's participation in any and all activities prepared by St. Mary's Elementary School during Summer Care. In exchange for the acceptance of said child's candidacy by St. Mary's Elementary School. I assume all risk and hazards incidental to the conduct of the activities, and release, absolve and hold harmless St. Mary's Elementary School and all its respective officers, agents, and representatives from any and all liability for injuries to said child arising out of traveling to, participating in summer care sessions.

In case of injury to said child(ren), I hereby waive all claims against St. Mary's Elementary School. There is a risk of being injured that is inherent in all activities.

Medical Release and Authorization

As Parent and/or Guardian of the named child(ren), I hereby authorize the diagnosis and treatment by a qualified and licensed medical professional, of the minor child, in the event of a medical emergency, which in the opinion of the attending medical professional, requires immediate attention to prevent further endangerment of the minor's life, physical impairment, or other undue pain, suffering or discomfort, if delayed.

Permission is hereby granted to the attending physician to proceed with any medical or minor surgical treatment, x-ray examination and immunizations for the named child(ren). In the event of an emergency arising out of serious illness, the need for major surgery, or significant accidental injury, I understand that every attempt will be made by the attending physician to contact me in the most expeditious way possible. This authorization is granted only after a reasonable effort has been made to reach me.

Permission is also granted to St. Mary's Elementary School to provide the needed emergency treatment prior to the child's admission to the medical facility. Release authorized on the dates and/or duration of the registered season. This release is authorized and executed of my own free will, with the sole purpose of authorizing medical treatment under emergency circumstances, for the protection of life and limb of the named minor child, in my absence.

(Signed & Returned with registration form)

St. Mary's Summer Care Registration Form

2 St. Mary's Hill, Lancaster

(716) 683-2112

bartkowiaka@smeschool.com



Child's Name

Date of Birth

Grade in Fall

Child's Name

Date of Birth

Grade in Fall

Child's Name

Date of Birth

Grade in Fall

Child's Name

Date of Birth

Grade in Fall

Street Address

City

Zip

Parent/Guardian Name

Home Number

Cell Number

Parent's Email

Please list any allergies, chronic illness, or medical conditions per child:

Which group would you like your child(ren) to be in?

PreK-1st grade

1st-8th grade

Does your child have a prescribed inhaler? If yes, please explain any instructions.

Emergency Contact Information

Name (please print)

Relationship

Phone Number

Alt. Phone Number

\$50 per day/Flexible Schedule Summer Care
Hours 7:00am - 6:00pm



\$50.00 per family non-refundable REGISTRATION FEE due with registration paperwork. Make check payable to St. Mary's Elementary

Paid by check #

Date:

Payment Contract

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Confirmation/Agreement

BY ACKNOWLEDGING AND SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS PUT FORTH BY ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR THEIR SUMMER CARE PROGRAM.

Parent /Guardian Name (please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

JUNE 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

Start
Date



JULY 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				



AUGUST 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	



Last Day

Family Summer Care Calendar Form

Please mark the days/times that you will be attending Summer Care. Leave dates blank that you will not be attending.

Please return the completed calendars for Summer Care by **Friday, March 31, 2023.**

Family Last Name

Child's First Name

Child's First Name

Child's First Name

Child's First Name

Summer Care begins Monday June 26, 2023 and runs through Friday August 18, 2023

Monday - Friday

7:00am - 6:00pm