

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 21 MARCH 1, 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

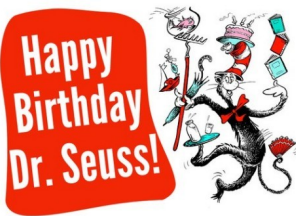
Dear SME Families,

As we continue our Lenten journey, I wanted to share with you some thoughts for daily prayer, which I reflected on while reading *The Word Among Us* publication.

- Prayer is a traditional practice of the Lenten season that helps us grow in our love for God and neighbor and prepares us for the joy of Easter.
- Establishing a set time and place to spend time alone can help remove outside distractions and help us concentrate and be more reflective.
- Recognize the good. Spend time giving thanks to God and recognizing all with which we have been blessed.
- Even if you feel angry or hurt, make the effort to forgive those who have harmed you or spoken ill of you.
- Ask for the Lord’s protection, and expect that He will bring about changes in our life when we speak His words.

As we gain more and more daylight each day, we are reminded that we have just three more weeks of Winter! With the change in season and promise of warmer weather, we will again be able to look forward to fun annual school and community events. Please continue to read our weekly newsletter and follow St. Mary’s Elementary School of Facebook and Instagram, so that you are following along with the story of our school year and staying as current as possible.

Mr. Olejniczak



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Fri. 3/3** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- **Wed. 3/7** - Spring Picture Day
- **Tues. 3/8** - Sport/Club Yearbook, Pre-K 4 & 8th Gr. Graduation Photo to Day
- **Tues. 3/14** - \$ Dress Down for Meat Raffle
- **Fri. 3/17 - 1:45 Early Dismissal**, Staff PD, No Afterschool Care Today
- **Wed. 3/22** - Last day to order your Yearbook!
- **Fri. 3/24** - Mother/Son Dance Party 7-9pm
- **Fri. 3/13** - Living Stations 1 & 7pm
- **Mon 4/3-Mon 4/10** - No School Easter Recess
- **Tues. 4/10** - Classes Resume

PHOTO DAYS

Spring Photo Day: Tuesday, March 7th

Only the students of families **purchasing** a spring photo package will be getting their picture taken today.

If your child does not present a payment envelope (from the flyer sent home on 3/1 **OR** a copy of your online receipt they **will not** have their picture taken.

We appreciate your assistance with this for a smooth picture day.

Pre-K 4 & 8th Grade Graduation AND Sport/Club Photo Day: Wednesday, March 8th

Students who participate in any of our clubs or sports will have their group picture taken on 3/7.

There will NOT be a make up day for these group photos.

Students are asked to wear their sports jersey (swim: PE or team t-shirt) or club shirt if applicable with uniform bottoms.

No payments necessary, proof sheets will be distributed for those interested in purchasing photos.

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.

Mega Raffle:

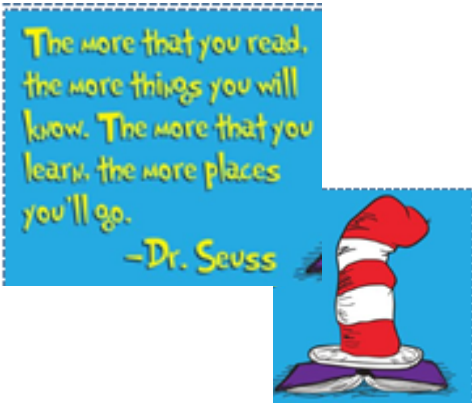
Tickets Sold to date: 505
Tickets Available: 745

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
- ◇ We partner with United Way! You can designate SME as the recipient of your donations.
- ◇ We participate in the Tops in Education program! Visit topsmarkets.com/education to register your BonusCard and select our school!



YEARBOOK SALE



Don’t Delay... Order Your SME Yearbook... Today!

SME Yearbooks will be on sale from February 22- March 22, 2023.

The yearbook is full-color, hardcover and packed with memories of an awesome year!
All students in PreK3-8th grade will be included in the yearbook.

Beginning Feb. 22nd: To order your yearbook visit: <http://www.inter-state.com/order> and enter code: 75214N

Yearbook sales will be **online ONLY** and the cost per book is \$20.

Yearbooks will be distributed in June.

Please direct any questions to Mrs. Pesany-Au at yearbook@smeschool.com

READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK



Read Across America Week continues through the end of the week!
Reading logs are due on Friday, no sooner, no later!

Special Events:

Thurs. 3/2: Dress in stripes or as the cat in the hat!
Fri. 3/3: This is a uniform day with crazy socks.

Don’t forget!

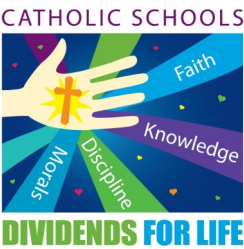
We are collecting new or gently used books to be donated to the WNY Foster Closet all week & socks on Friday to be donated locally!

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

GERTRUDE HAWK online orders with direct shipping can be placed through 3/23!

Looking ahead...

- ⇒ Out Of This World Mother/Son Dance on 3/24. Refer to the flyer attached today with more information! Please check out the following sign up for ways to help: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0544a8ad2ba46-motherson#/>
Questions? Contact: Mrs. Alicia Sears at aliciarosesears@outlook.com
- ⇒ Late March: Spring Sale Deliveries. We will share exact dates once we have them.
- ⇒ 4/29 - Meat Raffle - see the flyers attached today with all the details! Tickets are on sale now!
- ⇒ 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



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

Mega Raffle

When: June 9, 2023 at 6:00PM

Where: St. Mary's High School

Tickets sold to date: 505

Tickets remaining: 745

**MEGA
RAFFLE**



To Purchase: mail \$100 payment/per ticket to 1 St. Mary's Hill or scan here:

We have sold out 6 of the 7 previous years - be sure to get your tickets soon! Orders are filled once per week. Please be patient if you do not see your ticket come home the day that you send your check in.

First Early Bird Winner of \$300: Ticket #837

Second Early Bird drawing of \$200: Saturday, April 1.

All orders must be received by 4:00PM on Friday, March 31 to be eligible.

Basket Raffle Donations: We have set up an Amazon.com registry under the name [2023 Mega Raffle](#). All items purchased are shipped directly to the school. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

The Mega Raffle fundraiser is critical to keeping the tuition costs down for our SME families. So far, **137** of the tickets have been sold or purchased by school families – thank you for your support!! Feel free to get creative with Social Media (posting this great opportunity to Facebook, etc) as well as encouraging multiple people to chip in on one ticket. Every ticket sold gets us closer to our goal and makes sure we have a successful drive! Thank you again for all of your continued support on this important fundraiser.



Volunteer Options: Please scan the QR code to sign up or email us at megaraffle@smeschool.com. *If you are interested in helping out in any other way, especially if you would like to join the committee, please email us!*



Why **fit in** when
you were born to
stand out?
Dr. Seuss



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., March 14th, Tues., April 11th.

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

TAX TIME

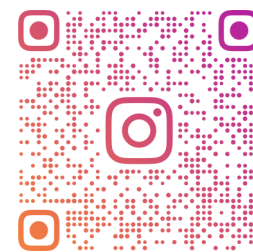
Have you begun filing your taxes? Is your preparer looking for our Tax ID Number?

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

We're on Instagram!



ST.MARYSELEMENTARYSCHOOL



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.



8TH GRADE INFO

8th Grade Graduation photo day is March 8th!

The students will be wearing a blue graduation robe and graduation cap. Please keep that in mind as you select your outfit for the day. A white collared polo shirt or shirt and tie looks crisp and neat!



STAY IN THE KNOW



Make Note: 3/7 Spring Photo day

Make Note: 3/8 Club/Sport & Graduation Yearbook 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

Save the Date: 4/27 Art Show & Open House



ORDER NOW

INTER-STATE.COM/ORDER

*Scan here for
easy ordering!*



PICTURE DAY IS:

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN AT:

St. Mary's Elementary School

ORDER ONLINE*

INTER-STATE.COM/ORDER

USE ORDER CODE: 76785DB

Order by Picture Day and receive free shipping to your school!

PICTURE

DAY



COMING

*Share
the
Power
of a Smile*

Join us for an

OUT OF THIS WORLD MOTHER/SON DANCE

FRIDAY MARCH
24TH 7-9PM

Tickets are \$12 per person- pre-sale only
Semi Formal Attire

**PIZZA AND REFRESHMENTS WILL
BE SERVED**

Please return money and order form to HSA Dance
Payment due by March 16th

ATTENDING(FIRST/LAST)

TOTAL ATTENDING

student _____

guest _____

student _____

guest _____

student _____

guest _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

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

**Mar,
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 20 Lunches = \$70.00	21 Lunches = \$73.50 22 Lunches = \$77.00 Cash or Check to SME Change Will Go On Acct
		1 No Alt B Available Buffalo Chicken Salad WG Muffin Veggies, Fruit & Milk	2 Chicken Stir Fry w/Rice Veggies, Fruit & Milk	3 Fish Sticks & Tater Tots Coleslaw Fruit & Milk
6 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Veggies Fruit & Milk	7 Tacos Grande Baked Beans Veggies, Fruit & Milk	8 No Alt B Available Chicken Caesar Garlic Bread Veggies, Fruit & Milk	9 Sweet-n-Sour Chicken Veggies, Fruit & Milk	10 Mozzarella Sticks Romaine Salad Veggie, Fruit & Milk
13 Chicken Parm Sandwich Veggies, Fruit & Milk	14 Nachos Grande Veggies Fruit & Milk	15 No Alt B Available Market Salad w/Muffin (apples, berries & bleu cheese) Veggie, Fruit & Milk	16 Italiano Incredi Bowl Veggies Fruit & Milk	17 10:45 Dismissal No Lunch Service
20 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Veggies Fruit & Milk	21 Homemade Chili Tortilla Chips Veggie, Fruit & Milk	22 Chicken Souvlaki w/Pita Veggie, Fruit & Milk	23 Cheeseburger Casserole Veggies Fruit & Milk	24 Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Fruit & Milk
27 Meatball Sub Veggie, Fruit & Milk	28 Chicken & Cheese Quesadillas Veggies, Fruit & Milk	29 No Alt B Available Taco Salad Tortilla Chips Veggie, Fruit & Milk	30 Chicken Incredi Bowl Veggies, Fruit & Milk	31 Cheese Tortellini Romaine Salad, Fruit, Milk

Menu subject to change.

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



Catholic High School Information Nights

sponsored by the Diocese of Buffalo



Tuesday, March 21st Nativity of Our Lord

(4414 South Buffalo St., Orchard Park)
6-7:30pm in the gymnasium



Tuesday, March 28th St. Andrew Country Day School

(1545 Sheridan Dr., Kenmore)
6-7:30pm in the bingo hall
Msgr. Donovan Center in McNulty Hall



This evening is open to parents and their
6th-8th grade students in all area public and
private schools.

High School representatives will be available to
answer questions, discuss financial aid, and
provide information on scholarship
opportunities.

