

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2 SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear SME Families,

I want to begin by expressing my deepest gratitude to those who have reached out to volunteer their time, efforts, and care this school year. All of us parents are so bushy and constantly pulled in multiple directions; I empathize and understand that your volunteerism is a sacrifice. However, our school truly does rely on volunteerism to offer all that we do. Nobody can do everything, but we all can chip in and so something. Thank you for offering your service and contributing to growing our school.

I strongly encourage attending our Meet the Teachers Night. On September 29th, from 5:30-7:30, we will share some opening words and an overview of the school year and some of our organizations in the gym before parents will have the opportunity to meet teachers in the classrooms. Children are welcome to attend and are always excited to show their classroom to their parents!

Have a wonderful week,

Mr. Olejniczak



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 9/29 - Meet the Teacher Night 5:30-7:30
- 9/28-9/29 - Book Fair
- 10/3 - STREAM Walk-a-Thon
- 10/7 - NO SCHOOL: Diocesan PD Day
- 10/10 - NO SCHOOL: Columbus Day
- 10/11 - School Picture Day (Pre-K 3 & Grades 3-8)
- 10/12 - School Picture Day (Pre-K 4 & Grades K-2)
- 10/14 - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- 10/14 - My Little Sweetheart Event 7-9
- 10/23-10/28 Red Ribbon Week
- 10/28 - Trunk or Treat 6-8pm
- 11/10 10:45 Early Dismissal P/T Conf.
- 11/12 Vendor & Craft Fair

AFTERSCHOOL CARE



On Thursday, September 29th we will be ending the Afterschool Care Program at 5:00!

This will enable our teachers to prepare for Meet the Teacher Night which begins @ 5:30. We thank you for your understanding!

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!

We offer a wide variety of opportunities to support SME and will be changing things up this year with our offerings.

We understand that every fundraiser will not be for everyone, but we do appreciate any & all support you can give!

Year round ways to help:

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



FALL PICTURE DAY

Fall picture day is scheduled for:

Tues. 10/11 for Pre-K 3 & Grades 3-8
Wed. 10/12 for Pre-K 4 & Grades K-2

Students are allowed to dress up on picture day, but should always adhere to the dress code outlined in the uniform policy.

Inter-State Photography has shifted to online ordering! A link to order will be shared as soon as we receive it.

STREAM WALK-A-THON

Today please find a permission slip for our annual STREAM Walk-a-Thon. Our Walk-a-Thon will be held on Monday, October 3rd.

All pledge money will be utilized to further grow the STREAM supplies & academy kits as well as funding STREAM field trips & transportation. We ask that all students come to school in their SME gym t-shirts, SME Spirit Wear, or SME hoodie or sweatshirt if the weather is cool. Jeans are permitted as long as they are free of rips/holes.

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

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.

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. We understand that every fundraiser will not be for everyone, but we do appreciate any & all support you can give!

If you are interested in joining the HSA team please contact MaggieAnn Kramer (HSAsecretary@smechool.com)!

Here is a snapshot of what is in store this fall...

September:

- Room Parents established
- Great Lakes Coffee Fundraiser (9/28-10/13)
- Meet The Teacher Night (which will incorporate our Scholastic Book Fair) 9/29, 5:30-7:30.

October:

- Hart & Home catalog fundraiser (dates TBD)
- Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser
- My Little Sweetheart Event 10/14 7:00
- Trunk or Treat Night 10/28 6-8pm
- Red Ribbon Week 10/23-10/28

November:

- Craft & Vendor Fair 11/12 - *Would you share our Facebook Event on your page to spread the word?*

Room Parents - If you are interested in being a room parent for your child's class, assisting in a variety of ways throughout the school year, please contact hsa@smeschool.com. Please indicate your child(ren)'s grade & teacher. Room parents will meet briefly during our Meet The Teacher Night on 9/29.

Scholastic Book Fair 9/28-9/29- Chairperson: Jenny Sparmo (jennifersparmo@gmail.com) **Volunteers are needed** for set up on Tuesday night 9/27, Wednesday 9/28 & Thursday 9/29 during the day and during Meet the Teacher Night. If you are interested in lending a helping hand please contact Jenny directly.

Students are encouraged to bring a reusable bag with them to shop and transport their books home!

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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

Do you find yourself asking...

What is RaiseRight all about?

Why all the hype?

Is it worth the effort?

Let me break it down:

Hype: Do love a discount? Purchasing RaiseRight gives a discount on your tuition. Discounts are good.

Effort: What effort?! Simply send your order into school with your child and it will be forwarded to our RaiseRight team for filling. If you are in need of a card right away beginning in October you can stop into the school (M-F, 8-10) and if it is in stock you'll walk out with it.

Changing your mindset from gift to payment cards opens up a world of possibility & rebates on your tuition!

Need food? From fast food to grocery, we've got a card for that!

New Clothes? Yep.

Medications? All of the local drug stores are on the list.

Do you actually have to give a gift? The possibilities are endless! After all, no one shops for you like you!

Stop pulling out your credit/bank card and grab a payment card instead!

Achieve (self appointed) superstar status when you download the easy to use RaiseRight app!

Online orders can be paid via check through our coordinator or with any credit card.

For a complete list of participating retailers visit the shop with scrip website: <https://www.raiseright.com/brands>

If you have any questions, please email raiseright@smeschool.com. We are here for you!



GREAT START TO ART!

New students are familiarizing themselves with the Art room routines and expectations. Most Elementary students have painted in Art class after reading the book "The Dot" by Peter H. Reynolds. Students were encouraged to "Make a Mark and See where it takes them" just like the child in the book who discovers her own artistic talent.



Students have been prepared for Art making. Thank you for sending in an Old T-shirt/Art smock for your child (prek-5th grade) to wear in Art class. Art smocks are optional (but highly encouraged) for Middle Schoolers. Smocks can be stored in MS lockers and worn as needed. All Middle school students will be receiving a school issued Sketchbook for homework and in-class assignments very soon.

Any questions or concerns please contact me at pesanyau@smeschool.com.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION



This week is National Boxtop\$ for Education Week!

What does that mean? It meant that when you can your receipt with participating products you'll earn double the points for SME! Download the Boxtop\$ App and scan those receipts! An easy way to help raise funds for SME with just one easy step of scanning the receipt of shopping you're already doing!

Click here for a list of participating products: <https://www.boxtops4education.com/s/box-tops-products>

NURSE NOTES

All new students, PreK,K,1,3,5,7 need current physicals. Any student participating in sports needs a physical yearly, regardless of their current grade. Physicals are current for one year from the exam date.

If your child is needing any medications at school, a current order is needed for the school year 2022-2023.

Nurse Tara is no longer our full time nurse. Nurse Dara will be helping out in the meantime. Please continue to use the nurse@smeschool.com email address for any concerns. The nurse phone extension remains 128.

KITCHEN NEWS

The application for Free & Reduced lunches was included with last weeks electronic edition of the NewsNote. If you would like to apply, please complete and return the application to the attention of our Kitchen.

The monthly lunch menu is always posted to our school website and parent portal.

Prepayment is encouraged. A handy cost calculator is at the top of the September menu.

If you are interested in celebrating your child's birthday, a birthday treat order form is available on the lunch menu tab of the school website.

JUNIOR LADIES OF CHARITY

JOIN THE JUNIOR LADIES OF CHARITY
NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY OCTOBER 16th, 1-3 PM
ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTER

The Junior Ladies of Charity are accepting new members! Young ladies between 6th grade and senior high school are welcome to join. If you would like to join other girls from our area and make difference in our community, consider coming to our next meeting!

Meetings are held one Sunday a month in St. Mary's Parish Center.

The girls work on service projects & plan volunteer opportunities that take them out into the WNY community including places such as Symphony Manor on Broadway, Response to Love Center, Gerard Place, St. Luke's Mission of Mercy, Ladies of Charity Center & St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center.

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.



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!

SAFETY DRILLS

As is required by law, we will be participating in both fire & lock-down drills while the weather cooperates.



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 Mr. Olejniczak.

We are notifying you that in accordance with EPA/AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act) regulations, St. Mary's Elementary School is required to have an asbestos management plan in place. If any parent, teacher or employee wishes to see the plan, a request can be made to the school office where it is filed.

STAY IN THE KNOW



Save the Date: 10/7 No School

Save the Date: 10/10 No School

Save the Date: 10/11 & 10/12
School Picture Days

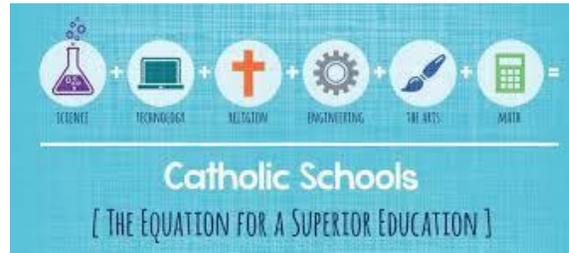
Save the Date: 10/26 K-8 Progress Report Upload

Save the Date: 11/10 10:45 Early Dismissal P/T Conferences

Save the Date: 11/11 No School Veterans Day



The STREAM Education Initiative at St. Mary's Elementary School



STREAM educates students for their future!

The idea of emphasizing the subject areas of **STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math** has been driven by the business community to prepare a more agile, educated workforce for our country's future. However, in recent years, it has been increasingly evident that our economy is truly driven by innovation and the creativity and communication nurtured through the "Arts" is an essential component to innovation and worthy of emphasis as well. Rooted in our faith as Catholic schools, "Religion" is woven throughout all subjects and completes the picture for a holistic approach to education.

STREAM Education makes learning relevant! STREAM Education allows academic concepts to be coupled with increased real life application in all the disciplines. Students become involved in hands-on projects where problem solving, collaboration, and the results of their efforts make lessons more relevant than a textbook alone. Increased technology to enhance learning is emphasized, and career connections as well as exposure to working professionals further relates students to their own learning and their futures!

We need your support in order to be able to continue the STREAM Initiative at SME! Funds raised for STREAM will benefit our students directly by allowing us to purchase supplies and new academy kits as well as help to fund our field trips and transportation costs to many of the cultural institutions in our community. STREAM funds help us to continue to provide creative, hands-on opportunities for all students that:

- Focus on inquiry, creativity, complex thinking and FUN!
- Emphasize STREAM education learning areas and nurture the innate curiosity of every child!
- Provide a runway for our next generation of believers, innovators, scientists and leaders!

STUDENTS NEED TO WEAR SME GYM T-SHIRT, SME SPIRIT-WEAR, SME SWEATSHIRT/HOODIE. JEANS ARE PERMITTED WITH NO RIPS/TEARS.





ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086

"...visible examples of Gospel living"

STREAM WALK-A-THON PERMISSION/PLEDGE SHEET TO BE HELD OCTOBER 3, 2022



My child(ren) has my permission to participate in the STREAM Walk-A-Thon on the sidewalks around the property of St. Mary's Elementary School, Lancaster, NY.

PLEDGE SHEET DUE BACK BY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH SIGNED AS PERMISSION

**** Pledge Money due back by Thursday, OCTOBER 20th, 2022 ****

CHILD'S NAME _____	GRADE _____	CHILD'S NAME _____	GRADE _____
CHILD'S NAME _____	GRADE _____	CHILD'S NAME _____	GRADE _____
CHILD'S NAME _____	GRADE _____	CHILD'S NAME _____	GRADE _____

Signature of
Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____

IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD(REN) TO WALK, THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED. THANK YOU.

PRINT SPONSOR'S NAME	PRINT SPONSOR ADDRESS	FLAT PLEDGE		AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT COLLECTED	CHECK #	CASH
				SME COORDINATOR FILLS OUT	TOTAL		



**St. Mary's Elementary
School Uniform Policy 2022-2023**

All uniforms are to be neat, clean and properly fitting. Shirts are to be tucked in at all times.

* Masks are to be worn when social distancing of 6 feet is not possible, not all the time*

GIRLS	
Do's	Don'ts
K-5: Uniform plaid knee-length jumper, khaki or navy blue skirt/skort, pants.	K-8: No skirt/skort/shorts more than 2" above the knee.
6-8: Uniform plaid, navy, khaki skirt or skort. Khaki or navy pants & belt (brown or black).	K-8: No nail polish or makeup
K-8: White, red, navy blue polo shirt or turtleneck. White collared shirts with a school plaid or navy blue tie are also acceptable.	Warm Weather: September, October May, June K-8: Navy blue or khaki knee length shorts may be worn with a belt.
K-8: Shirts must be tucked in at all times.	

BOYS	
Do's	Don'ts
K-8: Navy blue or khaki dress pant.	K-8: No cargo pants
K-8: A black or brown belt must be worn with pants & shorts.	K-8: No nail polish or makeup
K-8: White, red, navy blue polo shirt or turtleneck. White collared shirts with a tie is also acceptable.	Warm Weather: September, October May, June K-8: Navy blue or khaki knee length shorts may be worn with a belt.
K-8: Shirts must be tucked in at all times.	

**** Parents & Students are required to complete & return page 3 only ****

Shoes	Casual dress shoe of neutral color (black, white, tan, brown, grey, navy). i.e.: Flats with rubber soles, boat shoes, dress shoes.
	No sneakers are to be worn during the school day (unless in grades K-3 on PE days)
	NO: toeless, backless, crocs, sandals, heels above 1". All shoes must fit securely. No boots/UGGS are allowed during the school day.

PE Class / Uniform	K-8 Uniform: Uniform t-shirt, shorts, socks and sneakers. Uniform sweatshirt and sweatpants may be worn over the t-shirt and shorts if desired.
	K-3: Students will wear their PE uniform on scheduled PE days.
	4-8: Students will bring their PE uniform and change prior to class
	<i>PE Online Store will be open prior to the start of the school year and again in the spring.</i>

Hair	All hairstyles should be neat with bangs above the eyebrows.
	Boys hair should be above (not touching) the shirt collar.
	No extreme hairstyles: extensions of any type, bleached, dyed or streaks, shaved in designs.
	No hats will be worn in the building.
	No extreme hair accessories.

Cold Weather Items	The only cold weather approved tops are: SME Hoodie (available through the SME Gear Online Store), PE sweatshirt (available through the PE Online Store), solid navy/white/red cardigan or a navy blue fleece from an approved school vendor. Navy blue fleece must have a school logo on it (McKay's, Flynn O'Hara, Lands End).
	Girls: Solid black leggings may be worn under skorts/skirts in the winter months.

**St. Mary's Elementary
School Uniform Policy 2022-2023**

Jewelry	Boys & Girls: simple necklace's are permitted
	Girls may wear simple post earrings.
	Boys are not permitted to wear earrings.
	No wrist bands, costume bracelets are permitted.

Perfume / Cologne	Fragrances (body spray/perfume/cologne/spray deodorant) may be used in moderation, keeping in mind that they do cause problems for those with allergies &/or breathing difficulties.
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Non-Uniform Days

Dress Up Days	Students are able to wear nice clothes to school. All skirts, skorts & dresses are to be knee-length. Strapless/spaghetti strap dresses/tops are not allowed. Dress shoes with less than a 1" heel are allowed. No strappy shoes or flip flops are allowed. No jeans, sweatpants etc. are allowed on Dress Up days.
Dress Down Days	Students are able to wear casual clothes which are modest, tasteful and appropriate to school. Jeans may be worn provided they are free of holes, tears, frays etc. Shorts & skirts must be no shorter than our uniform requirements. No pants are permitted with words across the rear. No strappy shoes, flip flops or slippers. Students may wear UGGS & dress boots. NO leggings or yoga pants are allowed.

Students may wear boots to school and change into uniform approved footwear during the winter months.

ALL UNIFORM RULES & GUIDELINES ARE SUBJECT TO THE DISCRETION OF THE PRINCIPAL.

The principal reserves the right to make any changes to the Uniform Policy at any time.

Parents & Students are required to complete and return page 3 acknowledging the receipt and understanding of the uniform policy.



The RaiseRight team is looking for volunteers to sell gift cards at school.

A schedule will be determined once we know how many volunteers we have, but in the past, selling hours were 8:00-10:00 MWF.

Additional help is also needed on the coordinator end (weekly tasks include placing the order, tracking sales and inventory, and filling backorders).

If you are interested in learning more, please contact the RaiseRight team at raiseright@smeschool.com.

How Will You Spend Your Four Years as a SHA girl?

Feeling welcomed!

Practicing with your team
Starting a business
Wearing your class color
Leading a club
Karaoke contests
Volunteering



Bonding at retreats

Cheering on your friends



Becoming a SHA sister

Taking an IB Course



Finding your passion

Rehearsing for the musical



Open House: Sunday, October 16, 9 am - 3 pm. Come tour our beautiful building, meet students, faculty and staff, coaches and current parents. Learn more about academic, athletic and extracurricular opportunities including the International Baccalaureate Diploma and the M&T Women in Leadership & Business Academy. We welcome families in grades 6, 7 and 8. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required.

Schedule a Shadow Day: We welcome 8th grade girls to Shadow for a Day. Shadow days begin Monday, September 26. Students will be paired with a ninth or tenth grade girl (either someone you request or who shares similar interests) and attend classes, go to lunch, meet faculty and staff, and learn more about being a SHA girl.

Entrance Exam Prep Course: Sacred Heart will offer a study course designed to prepare eighth grade girls for the Catholic High School Entrance Examination. The course runs Saturday mornings, 9 am - 12 noon, October 22, 29 and November 5. Students will receive instruction and test taking strategies in English and Math. The cost is \$75 and includes the practice book.

Take the **Catholic High School Entrance Exam** on Saturday, November 19.

Register for all of these events by scanning the QR code:



SACRED HEART

BUFFALO ACADEMY *of the*



3860 Main Street | Buffalo, NY 14226 | 716-834-2101 | www.sacredheartacademy.org

St. Mary's Fall Craft & Vendor Show

St. Mary's Elementary School

November 12th, 2022

9am - 3pm

Please Print Clearly

Name: _____

Company: _____ Social Media Handles: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I would like (#) _____ 8-foot space (\$20 each)

*Please make checks payable to: St. Mary's Elementary School HSA - Memo: Craft show

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Total enclosed equal # of spaces @\$20 + # of Tables

Brief Description of items being sold: _____

****Please note that this is for handcrafted items and vendor items**

This show follows a "first come first served" policy and requested spaces will only be reserved until November 1st 2022, so please return this form as soon as possible to ensure your requested space. Set-up Start Time: 7:30am

Contacts:

Email: ogradyj@smeschool.com

Jayne O'Grady @ 716-683-2112 ext: 125

Mail application to:

St. Mary's Elementary Craft & Vendor Show
2 St. Mary's Hill, Lancaster, NY 14086

*By signing this application, you will agree that St. Mary's Elementary School is not responsible for any damages, stolen goods or losses from exhibiting at the show.