ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 21 MARCH 6, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Greetings, Friends and Families of St. Mary's Elementary School,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I contribute to this week's edition of our weekly newsletter! Recently, I have spent much of my time during the school day working and meeting with our middle school students. These productive conversations keep lines of communication open, which helps all of us be and continue to grow into the best version of ourselves.

When speaking with some 6th graders, it was mentioned that our school has seen a lot of growth in our recent past, and, as a result, we need to respond to the needs of our increased student population by offering more extracurricular opportunities. I share this conversation with everyone to demonstrate the maturity of some of our middle school students and the results of engaging in open, transparent communication.

In addition to our traditional clubs such as Student Council and NJHS, this year we have made an effort to participate in more diocesan events - such as bowling, the spelling bee, and the math competition. Also, Mrs. Guenther and Miss Koszuta have begun our Garden Club. In the near future, you will see raised gardens filled with dirt and new life, as students in K-8 work with our teachers to learn some gardening basics as they develop their green thumbs.

Additionally, our older students have taken on leadership roles to help establish and grow our pillar system, which will continue to grow into a program that continues to offer our school so much! We never want to be complacent, though, and will be returning or establishing additional clubs as early as this week, while also planning to add another wave of extracurriculars next year.

SME is returning a Chess Club. We expect a mix of experienced players and those looking to learn the rules and how to play. After we garner how much interest we have, the goal is to hold tournaments in order to name a seasonal Chess Club champion! Similarly, interested students will gather socially to play various board games in our Board Game Club! After learning of our participants' interests, we will host regular gatherings for our students who enjoy playing board games to gather together and enjoy each other's company while playing friendly games. Our students shared how much they enjoy spending time at SME - this is an opportunity for them to make and grow friendships here at our school.

By the end of the week, we will be sharing a Google Form interest survey to better understand what our students would like us to offer. On this Form, your son or daughter will read about our Video Game Club, Book Club, Cooking Club, Dance Lab, and First Aid and Safety Club. We will include a brief description of what we plan each club to offer! Completing this form will help inform us at the school how many moderators we will need, what we should plan to offer, etc. If your son or daughter is interested in getting more involved in the school community, please have him or her complete it.

Looking forward to next year, we are working to build our STEM offerings, including a Technology/Engineering Club, a Robotics Club, and Maker Faire offerings. If you are interested in helping to moderate any of these clubs, please let me know, as we are always looking to involve more parents and grow our extracurricular offerings.

With enthusiasm and optimism, I look forward to growing SME with all of you, Mr. O

BY THE NUMBERS

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

Scan in the app to earn! We earned \$25.50 in February

RaiseRight Program

SME GEAR ONLINE STORE

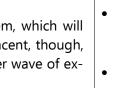
Our SME Gear Store closes on 3/11!

https://all-stars.printavo.com/merch/stmaryselementarymerch2024/?page=1

PLEASE ensure you are ordering the correct size for your child(ren). There are NO refunds/returns/exchanges for incorrectly ordered items. Distribution will be upon return from Spring Recess. This is the last time the store will be open for the 23-24 school year.

Please note the following calendar updates:

- Living Stations has been rescheduled to March 20th
- we are now off on Holy Thursday, March 28th dated and trimmed down version of the annual colondar is attached



Sun. 3/31 - Easter Sunday IT'S NOT ABOUT

Fri. 3/29 - NO

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dismissal, Staff PD

Fri. 3/15 - 10:45 Early

Wed. 3/20 - MP2 Re-

port Card Upload: K-8,

Fri. 3/22 - Mother/Son

Date Knight Event 6-

SCHOOL, Holy Thurs-

SCHOOL, Good Friday

Thurs. 3/28 - NO

8pm

day

Living Stations 6pm

the JUNNI IT'S ABOUT the amb

- Mon 4/1-4/8 NO SCHOOL, Spring Recess
- Tues 4/9 School Resumes

•

- Fri. 4/12 CW Mass
- Fri. 4/19 Meat Raffle
- Thurs. 5/2 Art Show, Sp. Book Fair

INSIDE THIS ISSU	E:
PRINCIPAL'S DESK	1
By the Numbers	1
SME Coor Store	1

 Tops in Education Program 	electronically today and is available on the quick links tab of our website.	SME Gear Store	1
Link your bonus card		Tax Time	1
Mega Raffle Update:	HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION	HSA	1
Tickets Sold: 412	It's pizza time! The Little Caesars Fundraiser begins today and goes until March	Bison Fund	2
Tickets Available: 588	21st. Today your child will be bringing home a catalog and order form. Orders	Mega Raffle	2
1st Early Bird Winning Tx: #277	can be placed online or with the order form. All paper order forms must be completed and returned by March 21st. Please see the attached flier about the	Meat Raffle	2
ΤΑΧ ΤΙΜΕ	online ordering. The Little Caesars fundraiser should be delivered the week of April 8th after spring break.	Transportation	2
Is your preparer looking for our Tax ID Number? The directive given to	The HSA meeting for tonight as been cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later date.	Raise Right Yearbook Orders	2
us by the diocese is to <i>not</i> release that number. In its place you can/	March Events: 6th-21st Little Caesars Fundraiser	Parish Corner	2
should indicate Religious Exemp-	22nd: Date Knight Dance - For tickets: https://date-knight-dance-29628.cheddarup.com	Book Sale	2
tion . Specific questions can be directed to Mrs. Jezuit:	Please reach out to Alicia Sears at aliciarosesears@outlook.com or 716-531-	8th Grade Info	2
(jezuitn@smeschool.com)	2867 if you would like to assist with the event.	Stay in the Know	2



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



Social Responsibility



Spiritual Growth



Academic Excellence

2024-2025 TRANSPORTATION

A flyer with area transportation department links has been added to the registration tab on our website.

All transportation requests should be submitted to your solution districts transportation depart-ment directly and are due 4/1!

SCHOOL BUS

BISON SCHOLARSHIP

on January 15th.

online at:

ary 20th.

The BISON Fund pre-application for

new or current families not on BISON

for the 2024-25 school year opened

To start the process, families can

complete a pre-application form

http://bisonfund.com/our-scholarships.

The deadline is March 15th. Scholar-

ships are awarded using a lottery sys-

tem from all submitted pre-

applications forms and all applicants

will be notified of lottery results via

Current families do not need to fill

out a pre-application, they will be emailed a link to complete the renew-

al process and add siblings on Febru-

If you have any questions, please feel

free to contact the Bison Fund office

BISOI

email on March 16th.

at 716-854-0869 ext. 1.

Yearbook

Order Your Yearbook Here: <u>www.inter-state.com/</u> order and enter code: 84834H. Yearbook Sales are online ONLY & Cost \$20.

PARISH CORNER

Did you know there are many opportunities for your child(ren) to participate in the Mass celebrations here at St. Mary's?

Our **Family Mass** takes place once a month at the Sunday, 10am Mass. Masses have been scheduled for the months of March - June. Click the following link to see the dates and the roles offered for your child(ren): <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u>go/10C0F4DA8A72EA4F9C52-48001519-stmary

MEGA RAFFLE

When: June 7, 2024 at 6:00PM Tickets sold to date: 412 Where: St. Mary's High School Tickets remaining: 588

The top prize is \$35,000 with 13 other prizes to win. The winner of our 1st Early Bird Drawing prize of \$300 was ticket #277! There are 2 more early bird drawings before the BIG event in June!

Did you see what's new for this year? We are excited to offer a limited

number of VIP tickets available for purchase online only. This includes admission for 2 adults (aged 21+), entrance to the VIP area including Lilly Belle Meads and a sponsored food pairing,



as well as VIP only door prize. Get yours online before they sell out!

Our <u>Amazon Wish List</u> is set up if you would like to donate an item for the basket raffle. Thank you to those who have already donated items! We will be collecting items until June and remember you can always purchase items with a RaiseRight Gift Card - everybody wins!

If you are interested in volunteering email <u>megaraffle@smeschool.com</u>.

MEAT RAFFLE



Mark your calendars for April 19th and come find out why our MEAT RAFFLE sold out last year!



This is one of our biggest fundraising opportunities of the school year and this year we are DOUBLING our capacity. So we need lots of help!

If you are able to donate any of your time, please sign up using the link below. You're going to want to be a part of the fun!

Meat Raffle Volunteer Sign Up

Freezer full of meat side raffle tickets went out to every family to sell or purchase. You need not be present to win! The table/ticket request letter is available here: <u>Ticket/Table Reservation Order Form</u> & on our website (Fundraising Tab: Meat Raffle) or hard copy by request.

The meat raffle needs your help! Show off your creativity by donating a basket for us to raffle off at the meat raffle. All donations can be dropped off for Mrs. Boundy at the main office.

RAISERIGHT

Reminder: Families earn 100% of rebates up to \$250 and an 80/20 split thereafter.

About the process:

RaiseRight credits are processed quarterly: March, June, September, and December. Mrs. Jezuit applies credits to tuition accounts based on the reports generated and received from RaiseRight. The RaiseRight office is not able to look into individual tuition accounts. If you (or a family member) is purchasing cards to help reduce your tuition you/ they **must** designate the recipient family when opening an online account *or* by indicating the family name on paper order forms. Without this information the RaiseRight office has no way of knowing where to assign credits.

If you have any questions, please email <u>raiseright@smeschool.com</u>. Our team is here for you!

Creating an online account: RaiseRight.com

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



We are also hosting a **Youth Lead Stations of the Cross** on Friday, March 15th. If your child is interested please sign up with the following link by March 1st: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> <u>go/10C0F4DA8A72EA4F9C52-2023#/</u>

St. Joseph's Table will be held here at St. Mary's on Tuesday, March 19th. See the invite attached today with all the details!

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Hoag in the Faith Formation office: <u>becky@stmarysonthehill.org</u> or (716) 683-8564 Here is a quick link to the order form: RR Order Form

READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

Thank you to those that donated, worked and shopped at our used book sale! With your support we

were able to collect and donate \$234.80 to the Lancaster Public Library.



8th Grade Info

Please be sure to check your email for an important message from Mrs. Pesany-Au (<u>pesanyau@smeschool.com</u>) regarding 8th grade baby pictures and year-book write-ups! This was sent last week.

STAY IN THE KNOW

Save the Date: 5/2 Art Show, Spring Book Fair

Save the Date: 5/3 CW Mass, Spring Book Fair

Make Note: 5/8 PR3 Upload

Make Note: 5/9 Ascension Thursday Mass, 8:30am

Save the Date: 5/10 May Crowning Mass, 8:30am

Save the Date: 5/10 Penny Fair

Save the Date: 5/17 Hope Ribbon Mass

Make Note: No School: 5/24-27

St. Mary's Elementary School | 2023-2024 CALENDAR

V3 3/6/24



2 St. Mary's Hill Lancaster, NY 14086

www.smeschool.com

P: 716.683.2112 F: 716.683.2134

* Afterschool Care is NOT available on 10:45 Early Dismissal Days

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31						

Christian Witness Mass: 8:30 am
 15 10:45 Early Dismissal: Staff PD
 MP2 Report Card Upload: Gr K-8
 Living Stations 1 & 6pm - new date
 Date Knight Dance 6-8pm
 NO SCHOOL – Holy Thursday - new
 NO SCHOOL – Good Friday
 Easter Sunday

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1-8 NO SCHOOL: Easter Recess
12 Christian Witness Mass: 8:30 am
19 Meat Raffle Doors open @ 5:30

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2 Art Show 6-8pm, Spring Book Fair
3 Christian Witness Mass (Ap.): 8:30
am, Spring Book Fair
8 PR3 Upload: K-8
9 Ascension Thursday Mass: 8:30
10 May Crowning Mass: 8:30
10 Penny Fair:

K-8 10:00-1:30 Pre-K 5:30-7 - **new**

17 Hope Ribbon Mass: 8:30

23 Walk-a-Thon

24 NO SCHOOL

27 NO SCHOOL: Memorial Day31 Christian Witness Mass (May): 8:30

* More Details to come on this exciting addition!

		JU	INE '	24		
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

6 Spring Concert 9:00am

1st Spin @ 7

- 7 Pre-K Moving Up/Graduations,
- Mega Raffle 7pm

10-13 Final Exams

- 12 Kindergarten Graduation, 9:00am
- 14 Christian Witness Mass: 8:30am, School Picnic 9:30
- 18 Gr 1-8 Last day of school
- 19 NO SCHOOL: Juneteenth
- 20 8th Grade Graduation, 4:00pm MP3 Report Card Upload: K-8

Save the date & walk with us in the 4th of July Parade!



SME Office Summer Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:00 – 12:00

Secure lockbox available 24/7





We're raising money for

It's time for you, your friends, and your family to stock up with Little Caesars[®] Pizza Kits! Have them on hand for quick dinners, parties or entertaining! We are asking that everyone sells _____2 Kits to help us reach our goal.

How: Fill out the top portion of your order form with your name and your preferred contact phone number (cell phone numbers preferred). Collect payment at the time you take orders. We may accept cash or checks made payable to:

ST. MARY'S

(Name of Organization)

You may also order and pay online by credit card: <u>VISA</u>

- Go to <u>www.PizzaKit.com</u>
- Got to **Products** then click on **Shop**
- Select Ship My Order to the Group (All Kits ordered online are delivered to the organization on delivery day.)

Our Fundraiser ID # is **439316**

When:

Fundraiser start date:

March 6TH, 2024

Order form and payment due: March 21ST (Late orders will NOT be accepted.)

Week of Pizza Kit Pickup: April 8TH (more information will be available when the exact date is known)

Where:

Pickup will be at: St. Mary's Elementary Please pick up your Pizza Kits as soon as possible as we do not have onsite storage. We are not responsible for orders that are not picked up on delivery day.

Volunteers Needed!

We'll also need several helpers on the day of delivery to help sort orders. Please call or email for details.

Please email $\underline{HSA@smeschool.com}$ with any questions. Thank you for your support and participation! Have fun!



EVERYONE LOVES A Classic



Pepperoni Pizza Kit

A family favorite! Enjoy our signature pizza crust topped with our famous sauce, 100% real Mozzarella and Muenster cheeses, and a generous portion of our tasty pepperoni.





Cheese Pizza Kit

Loaded with our custom blend of 100% real Mozzarella and Muenster cheeses, this one is loved by both kids and adults. Plus, it's easy to add your own toppings to create your family's favorite recipe. **Makes three 12" pizzas.**

\$25 - C

Group Earns \$6 Profit on Every Kit!

Pepperoni TIME!



Thin Crust Pizza Kit

A crunchy crust is the foundation for a pizza taste explosion. You'll savor each bite loaded with our secret recipe pizza sauce, 100% real Mozzarella and Muenster cheeses, and tasty pepperoni. **Makes three 12" pizzas.**





Gluten Free Pepperoni Pizza Kit

A delicious gluten free pizza? You betcha! Topped with our famous sauce, 100% real cheese, and tasty pepperoni. This gluten free crust just might become your new favorite!

Makes three 10" pizzas.



Order Online at PizzaKit.com

THEY'RE Amazing



Personal Pepperoni Pizza Kit

Quick and delicious! Perfect for after-school snacks, quick meals, sleepovers, and birthday parties. Kids have fun making their very own pizza creation.



Order Online at PizzaKit.com

\$28 - PA

\$23 - CU

SERIOUSLY, SO Delicious!



Italian Cheese Bread Kit

A customer favorite! The mouth-watering flavors of garlic, butter, Parmesan cheese, and our own Italian spices top our custom blend of 100% real cheeses. A perfect pairing with pasta or salad. **Makes three 10" breads.**





Pepperoni Cheese Bread Kit

Crispy pepperoni, our signature blend of Mozzarella and Muenster cheeses, Parmesan cheese, and garlic buttery goodness create a magical fusion of pizza and garlic bread! An anytime treat! **Makes three 10" breads.**





Crazy Bread[®] Kit with Crazy Sauce[®]

Enjoy our world-famous Crazy Bread topped with the delicious flavors of butter, garlic and Parmesan cheese. Served with our famous Crazy Sauce. A perfect side to our pizza.

Three loaves make 54 Crazy Bread sticks.

\$23 - CB

FILL YOUR Cookie Jar!



Sugar Cookie Dough

Not your basic sugar cookie! Our special recipe takes this buttery delight to the next level.

Makes 30 loz. cookies.

\$23 - SG



Peanut Butter Cookie Dough

Packed with fresh roasted peanut flavor! Criss cross with a fork before baking for that classic PB cookie look. **Makes 30 loz. cookies.**





Chocolate Chunk Cookie Dough

Premium artisan chocolate chunks nestled in a chewy, golden cookie. This family favorite is loaded with flavor!

Makes 30 loz. cookies.





Oatmeal Raisin Cookie Dough

Homestyle goodness in every bite! Wholesome oatmeal, plump raisins, and a hint of cinnamon make this cookie a winner. **Makes 30 loz. cookies.**



Group Earns \$6 Profit on Every Kit!

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DON'T FORGET TO COLLECT PAYMENT WHEN THE ORDER IS PLACED OR BUYERS CAN ORDER ONLINE WITH A CREDIT CARD AT PIZZAKIT.COM	00.92\$	\$72.00	0.92\$	0.02\$	\$72.00	0.82\$	0'57\$	0.22\$	0.22\$	0'£2\$	0.52\$	0.82\$	0'52\$		
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Make memories one Kit at a time





Little Caesars Fundraising

ORDERING ONLINE IS AS EASY AS 1-2-3!

GO TO PIZZAKIT.COM

Click on "Products" then "Shop."

ADD THE GROUP & SELLER

Enter your group's Fundraiser I.D. # so they earn the \$6 profit on your purchase. Add the seller's name when prompted.

START SHOPPING!

Your products will be delivered with the group's order and your seller will bring your order to you.

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Our community is happy to provide the following opportunities for prospective students and their families to visit campus and would ask that you share this information with your community. Details and registration information is below. For guestions, concerns, or more information, contact our Admissions Center, at 716.874.4953 or admissions@sici.com.

PRIVATE CAMPUS TOURS for all prospective families

Private tours are available throughout the year. Parents may schedule a tour by calling the Admissions Center at 716.874.4953 or by visiting the following link: Schedule a Private Campus Tour

EXPERIENCE ST. JOE'S PROGRAM for all prospective families

Wednesday, March 6, 7-8:30 pm Wednesday, May 1, 9-10:30 am

This program allows prospective families the opportunity to experience our Community of Excellence during a morning or evening in a small group setting. Each session includes remarks from our President, Christopher Fulco, Ed.D., and Principal, Mr. James Spillman '95 along with a tour of campus including opportunities to interact with current students, teachers, coaches, and parents.

RSVP for Experience St. Joe's Mornings **RSVP for Experience St. Joe's Evenings**

PRACTICE EXAMS for prospective students in grade 7 Saturday March 9, 2024, 8:30 am Saturday May 11, 2024, 8:30 am

We encourage all 7th grade boys considering St. Joe's as a high school destination to take a free practice Entrance & Scholarship Exam under normal testing conditions. The exam takes approximately three hours and all testing materials are provided by St. Joe's. A full exam score report is mailed to your home approximately 30 days after the exam.

Register for the March 2024 or May 2024 Practice Exam

SPRING OPEN HOUSE for all prospective families

Sunday, April 21, 2024, 10:30 am-1 pm

All prospective students and their families are invited to Open House for private, self guided tours of our modern campus. Your tour map will direct you through our campus to interact with our teachers, staff, coaches, and students. This a pre-registration event only with limited attendance and appointment slots. Select your arrival time below. Your family is welcome to stay on campus for as long as you wish.

Register for Spring Open House 2024

SUMMER CAMPS

We're getting ready for the best summer @ SJCI yet! Don't miss out on our summer camps! Embark on a summer of fun, sports, learning, and Brotherhood at St. Joe's! Our summer camps are designed to ignite the curiosity and passions of middle school students, offering a diverse array of activities led by St. Joe's teachers and Marauder coaches. Whether your interests lie in sports, music, academics, or beyond, we have something special waiting for you.

Registration for our 2024 summer camps is now open! Don't miss out on the opportunity to secure your spot. Click below to discover the complete list of camp dates and details, and start your journey with St. Joe's today!

Collegiate Summer!

Sports Camps

Beauty & The Beast

St. Mary's High School



March 7th & 8th 7:30p March 9th 2p & 7:30p





2024 Summer Camps!



Anastasia Ages 13-18 June 24th-July 20th

Willy Wonka Jr Ages 6-12 July 21st-August 17th

