

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 27 APRIL 24, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear Friends and Families of St. Mary's,

Over the past couple of years, I have shared statements I know to be true, declarations such as "St. Mary's is a special place." or "SME is so much more than just a school." Collectively, all stakeholders have grown together into a vibrant, flourishing community, which is something we all should be proud of. Amidst what can be described as a divisive time in our society, our corner of the world has grown closer together and stronger. Through reflection and accepting constructive criticism, our school has moved forward with a clear identity and exciting mission statement. Because we are a special place and are more than just a school, we are able to provide for our students an appropriately challenging curriculum, a safe and secure learning environment, and engaging athletic and extracurricular opportunities. It is certainly an exciting time to be a part of St. Mary's!

Last Friday evening, our school hosted a fundraising event. Feedback from the meat raffle has been overwhelmingly positive, as everyone in attendance had a very fun time. What I personally enjoyed most about the event was the tangible camaraderie felt in our school gym and the parish center. In addition to our more than 500 guests, we also had the assistance and service of over 60 volunteers. Parents, grandparents, and friends of our school chose to spend their evening serving SME and helping our students. Our volunteer team successfully raised funds that will directly assist and benefit our entire school community. I cannot thank enough all who played their role in hosting the meat raffle for their time and service. Without the cooperation and volunteerism of so many, we would not have been able to offer this fun-filled event.

When I am meeting with parents of prospective students, I am always happy to discuss the tight-knit community of SME. I share details of our Back to School Bash, our Trunk-or-Treat event, the Vendor and Craft Fair, our various holiday celebrations and events such as last week's meat raffle. Our teachers and staff could not be more proud of our students' academic achievements and I am personally pleased to communicate the extracurricular offerings we have available to our students. I feel what creates the positive culture and climate of our school, qualities which allow all of us to be happy and successful, is our community. The meat raffle was not just about winning a prize basket or options to stock your freezer; to me, the event was about bonding with friends and supporting each other in innumerable ways. And for that reason, all who attended left winners ... even if they did not leave with a package of hot dogs.

Have a terrific week,
Mr. Olejniczak



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Tues 4/30** - Flower Sale Ends
- **Thurs. 5/2** - Art Show, Sp. Book Fair 6:00-8pm
- **Fri. 5/3** - Christian Witness Mass 8:30am, Spring Book Fair
- **Mon 5/6** - Spirit Shirt Dress Down Day
- **Wed. 5/8** - PR3 Upload: K-8
- **Thurs. 5/9** - Ascension Thursday Mass, 8:30
- **Fri. 5/10** - May Crowning Mass, 8:30
- **Fri. 5/10** - Penny Fair Day K-8 10:00-1:30, Pre-K 5:30-7
- **Mon. 5/13** - \$ Dress Down for Mega Raffle
- **Fri. 5/17** - Hope Ribbon Mass, 8:30
- **Mon. 5/20** - \$ Dress Down for Mega Raffle
- **Thurs. 5/23** - Walk-a-Thon
- **Fri. 5/24 - NO SCHOOL**
- **Mon. 5/27 - NO SCHOOL**
- **Fri. 5/31** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30

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
- ◇ Tops in Education Program

Link your bonus card

Mega Raffle Update:

Tickets Sold: 549

Tickets Available: 451

2nd Early Bird Winning Tx: #111

DRESS DOWN DAYS

Mon. 5/6: SME Spirit Shirt

Mon. 5/13: Mega Raffle \$ Donation

Mon. 5/20: Mega Raffle \$ Donation

Every Monday in May is a dress down if you'd like to participate/donate.

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Thank you to everyone who supported our meat raffle in any way!

Spring Book Fair Information:

Are you ready for buy 1 get 1 free books?

The spring book fair needs some help! If you love books and good times, come and help our students shop. [signing up to volunteer](#).

E- Wallet for the Book Fair

The best way to shop at the book fair is with an e-wallet. Go to the [book fair homepage](#) click on e-wallet and create yours today!

Penny Fair Information

We are excited for our annual penny fair to be held on May 10th. This year we will be hosting our K-8 students during the school day, and our Pre-K students from 5:30-7:30. There are flyers attached electronically today.

May Events:

2nd & 3rd: Book Fair **6th:** Spirit Wear Dress Down **10th:** Penny Fair

K-8 Cheddar Up:



<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/sme-k-8-penny-fair?cart=aff91d24-b31c-4fa9-a1fa-de2d5094fcf5%21%2177084997>

K-8



<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/pre-k-penny-fair-night?cart=193c036d-46e4-422c-b757-63c60783caad%21%2177084201>

Pre-K

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EACAC2DABFAC43-48672292-penny#

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EACAC2DABFAC43-48672292-penny#

Volunteer Information

Cake Walk Donations:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4CADA923A2FF2-penny#

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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



Social Responsibility

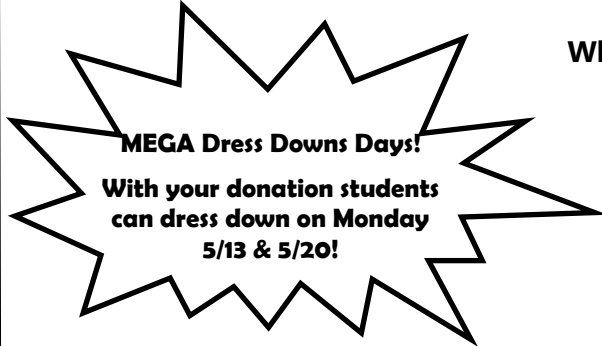


Spiritual Growth



Academic Excellence

MEGA RAFFLE



When: June 7, 2024 at 6:00PM

Where: St. Mary's High School

Tickets sold to date: 549

Tickets remaining: 451

The top prize is \$35,000 with 13 other prizes to win.

Why did the penny enter the raffle?

Because it wanted to make a little more cents!

You can make more cents too!

All you have to do is get your ticket for the Mega Raffle for your chance to win \$35,000!!

Get your ticket today before the final early bird drawing on May 1st.

We are still accepting donations for the basket raffle. Gift cards/monetary donations/scratch off tickets/other items can be sent to the office.

The [Amazon Wish List](#) is available and don't forget to use those Raise Right cards! We greatly appreciate all of the donations so far!

If you are interested in volunteering email meGARaffle@smeschool.com.



STREAM FLOWER SALE



Our annual STREAM Flower Sale ends in just under a week, don't miss out!

Order via the QR or link: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/spring-flower-and-plant-sale-temp-31362?cart=e36811bd-6b7e-4c1c-b50b-d5dae5d5d66%21%2176811784>

A variety of flowers will be available in 4.5" pots with a buy 5 get 1 free deal. There are also hanging variety & strawberry baskets available.

Delivery is Thursday, May 9th under the pavilion near the church.

ART SHOW

In conjunction with this year's Spring Book Fair, the walls of SME will be transformed with an amazing array of artwork by students in PreK3 thru 8th Grade.

Please stop by on Thursday, May 2nd and view the artwork of the talented students at St. Mary's Elementary School.

Students have worked very hard in Art all year long and they can't wait for you to see their masterpieces. Art work will be on the 1st and 2nd floor-main hallways. Family, friends and neighbors are all welcome!

MEAT RAFFLE



Thank you
Thank you
Thank you!



To all that came, couldn't come but supported in pre-sale raffles, those that helped both in front and behind the scenes; every bit helped make our event a success and we could not have done it with out you!

RAISERIGHT

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

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Until further notice **TIM HORTONS** gift cards are **UNAVAILABLE!** We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your understanding with this situation which is out of our control.

If you have any questions, please email raiserright@smeschool.com. Our team is here for you!

Creating an online account: [RaiseRight.com](https://www.raiserright.com)

For a complete list of participating retailers visit the shop with scrip website:

<https://www.raiserright.com/brands>

Here is a quick link to the order form: [RR Order Form](#)

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): <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DA8A72EA4F9C52-48001519-stmary>



8TH GRADE INFO

Save the Date for Friday, May 17th at 8:30am in the Church!

Hope Ribbon is a special day for our 8th graders. While at mass, Hope Ribbons are blessed and pinned onto the 8th grade students' shoulder by a person who is important to them in any/many ways.

Hope Ribbons are worn for the rest of the school year as a reminder of their years at SME and as symbols of hope as they look forward to their graduation and future.

STAY IN THE KNOW

Save the Date: 5/31 CW Mass

Save the Date: 6/6 Spring Concert, 9:00am

Make Note: 6/7 Pre-K Moving Up & Graduations

Save the Date: 6/7 Mega Raffle

Save the Date: 6/10 -13 Final Exam Week

Save the Date: 5/14 CW Mass, School Picnic

Make Note: 5/18 Gr 1-8 Last Day

Save the Date: 5/20 8th Gr. Graduation



Dear Families:

Get ready! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way (YAY!). Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them on their journey to becoming lifelong readers. AND—as always—every purchase at the Fair benefits our school.

Here's what you need to know about the big event, which will take place:

Say goodbye to cash and hello to **eWallet**—your child's digital payment account. Before the Fair, set up eWallet for worry-free, cash-free purchases. Anyone can contribute! Share each child's eWallet so friends and family can add funds and give your kids more books to enjoy.

If you can't make it to the Fair, then **shop at our school's Book Fair online**. All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Every online purchase will also benefit our school.

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping:

The countdown to more Bookjoy is on! Catch you at the Fair!

Happy reading,

Principal

GRISWOLD MEMORIAL RUN

*SUPPORTING ST. MARY'S STUDENTS AND FAMILIES
& HONORING THE GRISWOLD RUN'S 30TH YEAR!*

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024

Location: Como Park – 2220 Como Park Blvd. Lancaster, NY 14086

Distance: 5K Run/Walk (certified to be accurate by NY13031JJ)

Race Starts: 6:00 p.m.

Finish Line: Trackqua

Entry Fee: \$30 Pre-Registration (by May 8th)
 \$40 Day-of Registration

Age Groups: Male and Female – 14 and under, age groups 5-10 years depending on registered participants
Overall Male and Female winners; prizes for first in each age group

Additional Information: Available at smhlancers.org or call 716-683-4824

Race Packet Pick-up: Day of race **ONLY beginning at 4:00 p.m.**

Shirt Size (The first 75 runners if registered by April 26th): S M L XL

OR
Scan here to register!



Make Checks Payable to St. Mary's High School

ENTRY FORM

**Return to: St. Mary's High School
Attn: Griswold Run
142 Laverack Ave. Lancaster, NY 14086**

Last Name

First Name

Street Address

Town/City

State

Zip Code

M / F

Sex

Age (as of race day)

Phone

PSN/BIB – Race Use ONLY

In consideration for my entry accepted, I, intending to be legally bound, do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administration, waive, release, and forever discharge any and all claims and rights for damages which I have or which may hereafter occur to me against St. Mary's High School and the county of Erie, the race sponsors, and successors and assigns for any and all damages which may be sustained by me in connection with my association with or entry in and arising out of my traveling to, participation in, and returning from said event..

St. Mary's High School 2024 Summer Camps



Girls Basketball

Aug 12-16 / 9am-12pm / \$150

Boys Basketball

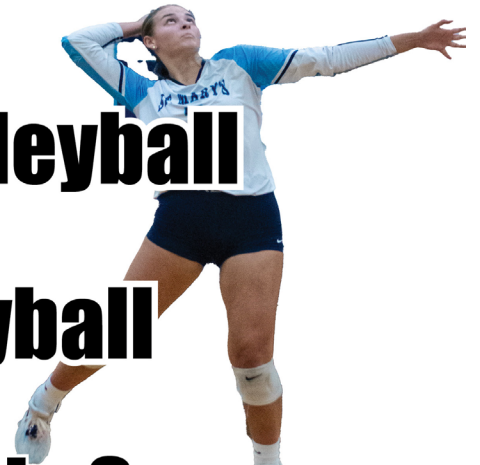
July 29-Aug 2 / 9am-12pm / \$150

Girls Middle School Volleyball

July 22-26 / 9am-12pm / \$175

Girls High School Volleyball

August 5-9 / 9am-12pm / \$190



Girls Soccer

August 19-22 / 9am-1pm / \$175-\$200

Boys Soccer

August 19-22 / 5:30-7:30pm / \$100



Register at smhlancers.org or scan the code above

Performing Arts Camps

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

Ages 6-12 / July 21-Aug 17 / Willy Wonka Jr.

