

NEWSNOTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4 OCTOBER 2, 2024

SECRETARY SIGN-OFF...

Every good story must come to an end, and the time has come for mine as Friday will be my last day. I have so enjoyed the many, many years spent here at SME; dating way back to 2009 when I was an out of work stay at home Mom, when both of my kids were here at school. I spent a couple of years as a daily volunteer in the cafeteria before I was brought onto the team. Fast forward to the spring of 2016 when I was asked to be the long term substitute for the secretary that never left!

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your child's life, if even in a very small way. I will miss their daily hello & good-byes, waves as they walk past the office, my afterschool care buddies and all the hugs!

My next chapter awaits...

All the best, Mrs. Kuhn

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

We look forward to meeting with parents who expressed interest in volunteering for HSA events this year. As a reminder, our parent group is meeting tonight @ 5:30. If you cannot attend this meeting but are still interested in helping, please email me @ olejniczak@smeschool.com for more information!

Our annual STREAM / EXCEL Walkathon is Monday, October 7. We thank you in advance for your financial support and donations to this event. A terrific supplement to our curriculum, our EXCEL @ SME programming is a differentiating offering that sets us apart from other schools. Without your support, we would not have been able to install or support these learning clubs. Thank you!

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
June Donation \$10.30
July Donation \$6.80
Aug. Donation \$47.10
- ◇ RaiseRight
- ◇ Tops in Education Program
Details included today

FALL PICTURE DAY

Mark your calendars and make those hair cut appointments! Picture days are scheduled for:

Thursday 10/17 & Friday 10/18.

We will share the schedule of classes per day and have paper order forms available soon, so be on the lookout for that information. Online ordering: Our online Order Code is 88250CF

[Order Here](#)



15 MIN EARLY RELEASE DRILL

On Friday 10/4 we will be participating in
Lancaster Central School Districts
15 Minute Early Release Drill.

As a result our dismissal timeline will be as such:

- 1:30 Pre-K Students**
- 2:00 K-8 Bus Students**
- 2:15 K-8 Parent Pickup**

We will still be hosting our Afterschool Care program as scheduled.

STREAM/EXCEL WALK-A-THON

Our STREAM Walk-a-Thon is coming!
This year’s walk will be held on Monday October 7th.
Students will walk the sidewalks around the St. Mary’s property.
Please sign and return the permission slip / pledge form which went home last week and return it to school by Friday 10/4.

Pledges can also be submitted via this cheddar up link:



<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/sme-walk-a-thon/items?cart>

Thank you for your support!



DAILY WALKER/PARENT PICK UP DISMISSAL

Our afternoon dismissal is running smoothly - thank you to all for making that happen!
A reminder for those who may be new to picking your child up as a walker/parent pick up:
For the safety of our students we **will** ask for identification from any person picking up a student until the time that our dismissal team is familiar with them. We appreciate your cooperation with this and ask that you share this information along with anyone else who you may have picking them up.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Fri. 10/4** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30am
- **Fri. 10/4 - 15 Min. Early Release Drill**
- **Mon 10/7** - STREAM/Excel Walk-a-Thon
- **Fri. 10/11 - NO SCHOOL**, Staff PD
- **Mon 10/14 - NO SCHOOL**, Indigenous People Day
- **Thurs. 10/17** - School Picture Day
- **Fri. 10/18** - School Picture Day
- **Fri. 10/18** - HSA: My Little Sweetheart Dance 6-8
- **Fri. 10/25** - HSA: Trunk-or Treat 6-8pm
- **Fri. 11/1** - All Saints Day Mass, 8:30
- **Wed. 11/6** - Pre-K Town Hall Meeting 5:30pm
- **Fri. 11/8** - Veterans Day Prayer Service 8:30am
- **Fri. 11/8 - 10:45am Early Dismissal:** P/T Conference Day

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRINCIPALS DESK	1
Good Bye	1
BY THE NUMBERS	1
EARLY RELEASE	1
WALK-A-THON	1
Walker Pickup	1
Pillar Shirts	2
ASC Cal. Update	2
Volunteers	2
HSA	2
Raiserright	2
Nurse Notes	2
7th & 8th Grade Info	2
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



ANGEL CHOIR

The first rehearsal for the Parish Angel Choir will be held **this evening** from **6-7pm** in the **Church**.

The choir will sing at the family masses at 10:00. See the flyer included electronically again this week with all of the details.

If you have any questions contact Ms. Ross:

andrea@stmarysonthehill.org.



PILLAR SHIRTS

There are just 7 days left to place your Pillar team shirt!

<https://all-stars.printavo.com/merch/crestofstmaryswebstore>

If you are unsure of your child's pillar team color, please reach out to the teacher, there is a list in every classroom.

We will have more details on scheduled SME Pillar/Spirit Shirt dress down days so be on the look out for that!



AFTERSCHOOL CARE SCHEDULE UPDATE:



On Monday, December 2nd there will be **NO** Afterschool Care available as our staff will have a meeting immediately afterschool. Thank you for your understanding.

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

Are you a parent / grandparent with a few hours to spare during the lunch hour?

We are looking to add volunteers to our lunch monitor crew. If you are interested please let us know!

secretary@smeschool.com



Social Responsibility



Spiritual Growth



Academic Excellence

NURSE NOTES

The monthly Nurse Note memo is included electronically this week.

We are also sending along our handy 'I need to stay home if...' letter. If your child is symptomatic, please keep them home.

Covid guidelines are ever changing and we have provided the latest update (dated March 2024). If/when we receive any new information we will pass it along.

~ Nurse Dara Sirianni RN, BSN
nurse@smeschool.com
716-683-2112 x128

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

My Little Sweetheart Dance

On Friday 10/18 we invite all the little ladies and a special guy in their life to our My Little Sweetheart Dance. The fun begins at 6pm! Please see the attached flyer to purchase your tickets!

HSA Meeting

Interested in learning about HSA and all the fun events we plan throughout the year? Join us tonight (10/2) at 5:30pm in room 140 for our first meeting!

Fall Craft Show

Save the date for the SME Fall Craft Show, to be held on Saturday 11/9! If you, or someone you know, would like to be a vendor, please reach out to craftshow@smeschool.com for more information.

Trunk - or - Treat

Save the date for our annual Trunk or Treat! It will be held on Friday 10/25 from 6-8pm. There will be pizza, cider, donuts & a craft in the PC. It's sure to be a spooktacular time!

SME Spirit Wear

Show your SME pride with SME Parent t-shirts. Each T-shirt is \$10. Adult sizes small through 2XL available. Sizes are limited to available inventory. Use the link or scan the QR code to order. Payment may be made via credit, cash or check payable to St. Mary's HSA. <https://sme-parent-wear.cheddarup.com>

SME Spirit Wear

HSA will host a monthly spirit wear dress down day. Each t-shirt is \$15. Sizes youth small through adult 2XL available. If the size you're looking for is sold out, please join the waitlist. You will be notified when waitlist sizes will be available by the end of September. Use the link or scan the QR code to order. Payment may be made via credit, cash or check payable to St. Mary's HSA.

<https://sme-spirit-wear.cheddarup.com>



7TH & 8TH GRADE INFO

8th Graders: 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.

7th & 8th Graders: We will share information & flyers from area high schools as we receive them so be sure to scroll through our electronic version each week.



RAISERIGHT

Tuesday 9-12
Wednesday 12-3
Friday 9:30-12

We have updated our order form to include cards we carry in stock and removed others. If there is something you want, but don't see it, please contact me! If available, I can order them for you! Or you can go online to find a master order form there. I will also be in office on Monday completing paperwork and ordering so you can also reach me on that day as well. I am sorry to say **Tim Horton** cards are **still unavailable** for ordering.

If there is anything I can do for you, please email me at raiserright@smeschool.com or call me at (716) 683-2112 ext. 132. I will answer emails within 24 hours and voice messages on my next day in.

Cindy Olejniczak
RaiseRight Coordinator



STAY IN THE KNOW

Save the Date: 11/9 HSA Craft & Vendor Fair

Make Note: 11/11 No School - Veterans Day

Save the Date: 11/15 Christian Witness & Grandparents Mass, 8:30am

Save the Date: 11/27-29 Thanksgiving Recess

Make Note: Fall Picture Retake Day

Save the Date: 12/5 HSA Merry Moose Shop

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

October
2024

Student lunches are \$3.75, 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 three alternate choices offered daily; Turkey Sandwich, Yogurt Parfait, or Sun Butter/Jelly Sandwich. 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 \$0.50-\$1.00. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at heerdt@smeschool.com. We appreciate your support. Liz Heerdt & Tracy Hadsall (menu subject to change)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Lunch = \$3.75 2 Lunches = \$7.50 3 Lunches = \$11.25 4 Lunches = \$15.00 5 Lunches = \$18.75	6 Lunches = \$22.50 7 Lunches = \$26.25 8 Lunches = \$30.00 9 Lunches = \$33.75 10 Lunches = \$37.50	11 Lunches = \$41.25 12 Lunches = \$45.00 13 Lunches = \$48.75 14 Lunches = \$52.50 15 Lunches = \$56.25	16 Lunches = \$60.00 17 Lunches = \$63.75 18 Lunches = \$67.50 19 Lunches = \$71.25 20 Lunches = \$75.00	21 Lunches = \$78.75 22 Lunches = \$82.50 Cash or Check to SME Change Will Go On Next
	1 Pulled Pork Sandwich Veggies, Fruit & Milk	2 Pasta w/ Meatballs Veggies, Fruit & Milk	3 Beef Crumble Over Mashed Potatoes Veggies, Fruit & Milk	4 Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk
7 French Toast Sticks Egg Patty Veggies, Fruit & Milk	8 Beef & Cheese Burrito Veggies, Fruit & Milk	9 Sweet & Sour Chicken Rice Veggies, Fruit & Milk	10 Chicken Alfredo Veggies, Fruit & Milk	11 No School
14 No School	15 Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla Veggies, Fruit & Milk	16 Chicken Dinner w/ Mashed Potatoes Veggies, Fruit & Milk	17 Hot Dogs Veggies, Fruit & Milk	18 Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk
21 Pancakes & Sausage Veggies, Fruit & Milk	22 Chili with A Biscuit Veggies, Fruit & Milk	23 Breaded Chicken Patty On A Roll Veggies, Fruit & Milk	24 Chicken Caesar Salad Breadstick Veggies, Fruit & Milk	25 Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk
28 Chicken Souvlaki Bowl Veggies, Fruit & Milk	29 Nachos Supreme Veggies, Fruit & Milk	30 Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup Veggies, Fruit & Milk	31 Ghoulish Goulash Vampire Veggies, Freaky Fruit & Monster Milk	



NOTES FROM THE NURSE



Dara Sirianni RN, BSN

October 2024

Vision & Hearing Screens

Vision & Hearing screenings will take place this month. Students in Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th grades as well as all students new to SME will have their vision and hearing checked. If you would like your child's vision and hearing screened please reach out and I will be happy to add them to the list. Referrals will be sent home as needed.

Physicals

Physicals are a NYS requirement. At this time there are still many students who have not had one submitted for the year.

If your student is in K, 1, 3, 5, 7 or a new student here at SME a physical has been requested. Please submit ASAP.

If no physical is submitted by 11/1, your student will be unable to participate in PE until one is received.

Illnesses

Please view the accompanying handout "I need to stay Home If...". This handout will provide you with the guidelines necessary to help prevent the spread of illnesses.

Also, please note that any student who tests positive for Covid must remain out of school until 24 hours fever free without the aid of Motrin/Tylenol, and it is recommended they mask for 5 days following return to school.

We can minimize illness by:

- 1- Getting plenty of rest*
- 2- Eating a balanced diet*
- 3- Drinking more water*
- 4- Avoiding crowded areas*
- 5- Covering coughs/sneezes*
- 6- Washing hands frequently or using sanitizer*
- 7- Getting your annual Flu vaccine*

Safe Snacks

When Sending in snacks to share with the classroom for Holiday or birthday Celebrations please be sure they come from the safe snack list. This ensures all students may safely participate in the celebration and no one is excluded due to allergies beyond their control.

If you have ideas for a snack to be added to the list please email me and I will research the ingredients and manufacturer to ensure it is safe and potentially add it to the list!

Contact Information








Dara Sirianni RN, BSN
Office Hours- 9:30-1
phone- (716)683-2112 ext 128
fax- (716) 683-2134
email- nurse@smeschool.com



Attention all parents/guardians:

Please note that if your child is not feeling well at home we ask you to use your best judgment when determining whether or not to send them to school. Illness can and will spread rapidly among younger students and it is our goal here at SME to take precautions to minimize the instances of these illnesses.

Your student **MUST STAY HOME** if any of the below items apply. This also applies anytime a student is sent home from the Health Office.

I NEED TO STAY HOME IF...						
I HAVE A	I AM	I HAVE	I HAVE A	I HAVE	I HAVE AN	I HAVE BEEN IN
FEVER	VOMITING	DIARRHEA	RASH	HEAD LICE	EYE INFECTION	THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100.4 or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours.	Body rash with itching or fever.	Itchy head, active head lice.	Redness, Itching, and/or "crusty" drainage from eye.	Hospital stay and/or ER Visit

I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM....						
Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication i.e. Tylenol, Motrin	Free from vomiting for at least 2 solid meals	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours	Free from rash itching, or fever. I have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided to nurse.	Evaluated by my doctor and have note to return to school	Released by my medical provider to return to school.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me in the Health Office.

School Nurse,
Dara Sirianni RN, BSN



KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

Department of Health

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

JOHANNE E. MORNE, M.S.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

March 7, 2024

TO: Local Health Departments, Healthcare Providers, Healthcare Facilities, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatric, Adolescent Medicine, Infectious Disease, Primary Care Providers, Nursing Homes, Adult Care Facilities, School Nurses, and Infection Control/Epidemiology

FROM: New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)

HEALTH ADVISORY: Updated recommendations on when to stay home and when to go back to normal activities after respiratory illnesses including COVID-19, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) – Non-Healthcare Settings

Following the [updated CDC recommendations](#), the NYSDOH is revising its guidance for when to stay home and when individuals can return to normal activities after respiratory infections including COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. This [infographic](#) from the CDC is helpful in simply illustrating this respiratory guidance. Please feel free to post in clinical spaces so staff and patients can easily understand this approach for viral respiratory diseases.

- Individuals should stay home and away from others, including people they live with who are not sick, if they have respiratory virus symptoms that are not better explained by another cause. These symptoms can include fever, chills, fatigue, cough, runny nose, and headache.
- Individuals can go back to normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, both of the following are true:
 - Symptoms are getting better overall, **and**
 - They no longer have a fever without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- When going back to normal activities, individuals should take added precautions over the next 5 days, including taking additional [steps for cleaner air](#), [hygiene](#), [masks](#), [physical distancing](#), and [testing](#) when they will be around other people, especially older adults, young children, and those with weakened immune systems. Children under age 2 should never wear a mask. Healthcare providers should discuss with their patients about how long a child under 2 should stay home.
- Keep in mind that people may still be able to spread the virus that made them sick, even if they are feeling better, so it is important to take extra precautions after resuming normal activities.

- If individuals develop a fever or start to feel worse, they should stay home and away from others again. They should use the same criteria for returning to normal activities as when they first had symptoms and take added precautions over the next 5 days.

These changes described above **DO NOT** pertain to individuals working in healthcare settings. Healthcare facilities should continue to follow the CDC's [Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2 | CDC](#) and [Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages](#). Transition from conventional to contingency to crisis staffing strategies should be based on ability to provide essential services, as determined by the facility. Also see: https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/02/doh-hcw_rtw_advisory_11_30_22.pdf.

This document supersedes previous guidance on return to normal activities after testing positive for COVID-19 for non-healthcare settings.

Questions about this guidance may be addressed to the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control at bcdc@health.ny.gov or call 518-473-4439.



MY LITTLE SWEETHEART DANCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
6:00P.M. – 8:00P.M.

Dad, grandpa, an uncle or an older
brother are welcome to attend with
their lovely little lady

Cost: \$14 per
person ●

Due by: Morning of
Oct. 18th ●

Pre-sale only



Pizza & Refreshments



EARN UP TO **5% BACK** FOR YOUR SCHOOL

THE MORE YOU SHOP, THE HIGHER PERCENTAGE WE DONATE!

YOU SHOP. TOPS DONATES.

(Monthly TOPS Brands Purchases)

(Percentage Given Back to Your School[s])

\$0.01 - \$9.99 → 1%

\$10.00 - \$24.99 → 2%

\$25.00 - \$49.99 → 3%

\$50.00 - \$99.99 → 4%

\$100 or more → 5%

HELPS YOUR SCHOOL:
**FUND PROGRAMS &
MAKE IMPROVEMENTS**

Register and Learn More at TopsMarkets.com/Education





Visit www.TopsMarkets.com/Education to sign up.

St. Mary's Elementary School is already signed up to earn so parents and grandparents, neighbors and friends just need to register their cards to start earning!

Here is how it works:

1. **Register** your Tops BonusPlus®.
2. Select your school(s) of choice (grades K-12) from the list of schools that have registered (you may select up to three schools).
3. Purchase participating TOPS Brand, Full Circle, TopCare, Tippy Toes, Crav'n Flavor, Simply Done, That's Smart, Paws, Pure Harmony, Tippy Toes, Wide Awake and Best Yet products with your Tops BonusPlus® throughout the 2023-2024 Tops in Education program year.
4. Tops contributes up to 5% of your purchase to the school(s) you have chosen. The more you shop, the higher percentage we donate!

October is Double Give Back Days!!! Register this month to double your earnings for your school! It's so easy. Just register and shop! No turning in receipts or collecting items to turn in. Just do your regular grocery shopping at Tops with Tops Brands products and watch your earnings grow!

Please join us for our

Halloween Trunk or Treat



DECORATE YOUR TRUNKS AND COME
FOR TREATS

October 25, 2024

6:00-8:00pm

Pizza, drinks and activities in the Parish
Center

Admission: 1 non-perishable food item



ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY

FALL CRAFT SHOW

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

9:00AM – 3:00PM

BASKET RAFFLE | FOOD | 50/50

ENJOY OUR CRAFT SHOW WITH FREE ADMISSION

2 ST. MARY'S HILL, LANCASTER, NY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

[CRAFTSHOW@SMESCHOOL.COM](mailto:craftshow@smeschool.com)

