

NEWSNOTE

NOVEMBER 13, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

Dear SME Families,

As we near our annual Grandparents Mass, I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize all SME grandparents and grandparent figures in our lives. Grandparents play many important roles in our students’ lives. Though circumstances vary from family to family, we have seen many of our SME grandparents be caregivers, playmates, trusted advisors and wise teachers.

The love and emotional closeness grandparents provide make such a strong impact on their grandchildren. In addition to giving advice and offering perspective that only life experiences can provide, grandparents help lead our families in numerous ways. All grandparents are role models who have so much to teach, and some are able to help provide our students with rides to and from school and even offer child care before or after classes! Above all else, though, grandparents provide love.

The most important thing SME grandparents bring to their little ones and our school community is love. While true for all of us, young children especially grow through close, caring relationships. The attention, unconditional love, and sense of security that grandparents offer help our students feel safe, cared for, and secure – all goals of St. Mary’s Elementary School.

On behalf of all of us at St. Mary’s Elementary School, to all of our SME grandparents: thank you.

Mr. Olejniczak



- **Fri. 11/15** - Christian Witness & Grandparents Mass 8:30am
- **Wed. - Fri. 11/27-11/29** - NO School: Thanksgiving Recess
- **Mon. 12/2** - 1pm EARLY DISMISSAL; **NO AFTERSCHOOL CARE**
- **Wed. 12/4** - Fall Picture Retake Day
- **Thurs. 12/5** - HSA Merry Moose Shop
- **Fri. 12/6** - Christian Witness Mass 8:30am
- **Fri. 12/6** - **NO AFTERSCHOOL CARE**
- **Fri. 12/13** - Living Nativity 6pm
- **Sat. 12/14** - HSA Breakfast with Santa
- **Mon. 12/23** - Christmas Recess



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
October Donation \$18.20
- ◇ RaiseRight
- ◇ Tops in Education Program

FINANCES

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your patience and understanding during this transition period as we welcome a new staff member to our team, Mrs. Light. We appreciate your flexibility and support as we make a few changes to our financial processes.

We are exited to share that our new email contact will be available to assist you with any inquiries.

Please direct all further questions/concerns regarding financial services to the email below:

finances@smeschool.com



FOOD DRIVE

Thanksgiving Food Drive

As Thanksgiving approaches, we are hoping everyone is getting excited for the wonderful and precious gift of the holiday season. As a part of our holiday season at St. Mary's, we would like to take an opportunity to practice the Christian tradition of almsgiving as a school community. To give to our local community members in need, we are planning a school-wide food drive to benefit the St. Mary's Food Basket Ministry and the food pantry at St. Martha's. Any donation is helpful, and we appreciate your generosity as we help to live out our Christian faith and serve those in need. To help make this a fun experience for the school, this food drive will also be a pillar game challenge where students will put their food into a bin (located at the front entrance) that is their pillar color. We hope this will bring holiday fun!

Collection Dates: Thursday 11/14 - Wednesday 11/20 - Items may be brought in on any day for collection.

High-Need Items: Packaged fruit (especially single-serve fruit & applesauce cups), vegetables, Hamburger Helper, pasta, sauce, rice, instant potatoes, pancake mix, syrup, mac and cheese, flour, sugar, coffee and paper products.

HSA

SME Craft Show

We had a fantastic turnout for the Craft Show! This is always a very successful fundraiser for the school, in addition to being a popular community event. Many thanks to Mrs. O'Grady for coordinating the event and to all of our volunteers!

Gnome for the Holidays Fundraiser

We would like to thank all those who participated in this fall fundraiser! Orders are expected to arrive at the school the first week of December.

Merry Moose

Save the date for our annual Merry Moose Market! This event will be held on 12/5 during the school day. We are also hoping to have it open for a couple hours in the evening for families who would like to come shop!

We would greatly appreciate donations of gift tags, tissue paper, and gift bags (keep in mind that many of the items are smaller gifts--ornaments, keychains, mugs, etc.). Any donations can be dropped off in the main office.

Christmas Trees

We are in need of artificial Christmas trees to decorate the PC for the holidays! If anyone has a tree they are looking to get rid of, we would love to take it off your hands. Please contact hsa@smeschool.com.

SME Parent 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. Order using the following link: <https://sme-parent-wear.cheddarup.com>

SME Spirit Wear

Need SME Spirit Wear? We've got you covered! Each t-shirt is \$15, youth and adult sizes are available. Scan the QR code to order.



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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



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, please contact me! If available, I can order them for you! Or you can go online to find a master order form there.

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 raiseright@smeschool.com or call me at (716) 683-2112 ext. 132.

Cindy Olejniczak

AFTERSCHOOL CARE UPDATES



AFTERSCHOOL CARE SCHEDULE UPDATE:

On Monday, **December 2nd & Friday, December 6th** there will be **NO** Afterschool Care available as our staff will have a meeting immediately afterschool.

Thank you for your understanding.

UNIFORM ORDERS



Uniforms will be available for ordering on a monthly basis starting on 11/1 through 12/1 and each month thereafter. All orders placed within the month-long period will be processed by All-Stars on 12/2. Orders will be ready for shipping/pickup by 12/20 at the very latest! Please click the link below to place your order :)

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

MY LITTLE SWEETHEART PHOTOS

Photos from the Sweetheart dance are now available!

Please visit the link below to find photos of your little sweethearts:

<https://KellyTanskiPhotography.pixieset.com>

A special thank you to Mrs. Tanski for capturing this beautiful event! We appreciate all your hard work in capturing these special moments between our students and their loved ones!



FALL PORTRAIT RETAKES 12/4

Picture Retake Day is Wed. 12/4

If you have not ordered pictures for your child(ren)s, you can still do so by clicking the "order here" link below:

[Order Here](#)

Our online Order Code is 88250CF



WADROBE CHANGE FOR GYM

Important update regarding grades 4th-8th PE classes

Starting Monday 11/18, students will now have the opportunity to change for gym class. Please remind your child to bring appropriate gym attire to change into on their scheduled days for gym.

Thank you for your continued support in promoting a positive and active environment for our students!

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Get your tickets for the 12 days of Christmas you sure don't want to miss this. We have lots of prizes which make fun surprises, but you've gotta be in it to win it! Additional tickets are available by request in the school office.

Thank you & Good Luck!

8TH GRADE INFO

High School Entrance Exam Reminder!!

Remember that the HSPT exam is coming up fast on November 23. If you have not registered for the exam, please do so ASAP. The exam is taken at your first choice high school. BEST WISHES AS YOU STUDY AND PREPARE!!

GRANDPARENTS MASS

On Friday, Nov. 15th we invite our grandparents to join us for a special Mass.

We ask that you please complete this quick interest form with the number of grandparents attending as well as the student (s) name(s) so that we can begin our planning. Visit the link below:

[Grandparents Mass 11/15/24 - Interest Form](#)



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Season's Greetings, SME Families!

Mark your calendars, because Santa Claus is coming to ... SME!!!

Our annual Breakfast with Santa event will take place on December 14th in the Parish Center. Doors will open at 8:00 am, and we'll be serving breakfast until 11:00 am. Our pancake breakfast will also come with breakfast sausages and your choice of beverage - coffee, juice, milk. Our guests will also have the opportunity to decorate cookies. Of course, Santa will be joining us from 8:30-10:30 for all picture opportunities and to visit with kiddos, as they share their wish lists with him.

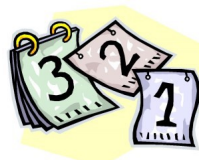
Please keep an eye out for an active cheddar-up link to purchase your tickets and a sign up genius link for those able to volunteer. If you cannot volunteer, please consider donating unfrosted cookies, frosting, or sprinkles to help our HSA keep costs down.

Looking forward to seeing you and celebrating the holiday season with our SME School Family.

Merry Christmas,
Mrs. Claus
Cindy - 716-602-8932



CALENDAR CLUB



We will once again run the Calendar Club fundraiser for the 2024 calendar year. With 365 days of prizes there is over \$10,000 to be won!

Upon the receipt of your \$20 donation, your name and number will be registered for all drawings for the year 2024. Winning numbers will be physically drawn monthly at St. Mary's Rectory and will be published monthly on the parish & school websites.

STAY IN THE KNOW

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

Save the Date: 11/27-29 Thanksgiving Recess

Make Note: 12/4 Fall Picture Retake Day

Save the Date: 12/5 HSA Merry Moose Shop



St. Mary's High School

Lancaster, NY



Take the Next Steps!

Entrance Exam Review Classes

Nov. 6th-8th from 4-6 p.m.

Entrance Exam

Nov. 23rd from 8-11 a.m.



Register at smhlancers.org or scan the code

Schedule a Shadow Day!

Contact Andrea Drabik at adrabik@smhlancers.org.

TOGETHER ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL
& ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY PRESENT



CHRISTMAS NIGHT IN THE VILLAGE

DEC 12TH

5 - 8 P M

**LIVE MUSIC
SHOPPING PERKS
DRINK SPECIALS
FOOD TRUCKS**

**GUEST APPEARANCE BY
SANTA & MRS. CLAUS**

Central Ave., Village of Lancaster
for questions: lfathey@smhlancers.org



BOX TOPICS

Easy ways to make a difference for your school.

NOVEMBER
2024 EDITION

BONUS OFFERS

Offers are valid in a single transaction between 11/01/2024-11/30/2024



Buy 3, Earn 6
on participating
Nature Valley
products*



Buy 3, Earn 6
on participating
Betty Crocker
baking products*



Buy 3, Earn 6
on participating
Totino's products*



Buy 2, Earn 4
on participating
Cinnamon Toast
Crunch products*



Buy 2, Earn 4
on participating
Pillsbury crescent
products*

*Must submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Limit 5 claims per receipt.



THE BIGGEST COOKING DAY OF THE YEAR IS ALMOST HERE!

Take it easy in the kitchen and make family-favorite dishes with Box Tops delicious, timesaving products.

See participating products at btfe.com/products

THIS MONTH ONLY!

CONNECT AND EARN

= 50 =

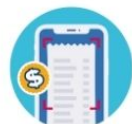
BONUS BOX TOPS

WALMART CONNECTED ACCOUNTS

During November 1 -30, 2024, you'll earn **50 Bonus Box Tops (\$5)** by connecting your Box Tops and Walmart accounts for the first time. It only takes a few minutes and it's easy.

Learn more at BTFE.com/Walmart

3 EASY WAYS TO EARN FOR OUR SCHOOL



SCAN

Qualifying receipts
in the app



SUBMIT

Qualifying digital
receipts in the app



CONNECT

Your Walmart and
Box Tops accounts

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE BOX TOPS APP AT BTFE.COM

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS
APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:



St. Mary's Elementary RaiseRight Order Form - Lancaster, NY

Name _____	
Address _____	
Phone _____	Email _____

School Family _____ Parishioner _____	
Oldest Child's Name _____	
Grade / Teacher _____	ID# _____

Product	%	QTY	Total
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Grocery

Federal Meats \$20	5%		\$
Instacart \$25 / \$100	5%		\$
Shop Rite \$25 / \$100	4%		\$
Tops Markets \$10	5.50%		\$
Tops Markets \$25	5.50%		\$
Tops Markets \$50	5.50%		\$
Tops Markets \$100	5.50%		\$

Dining - Casual

Applebee's \$25 / \$50	8%		\$
Bob Evans \$10 / \$25	10%		\$
Carraba's Italian Grill \$25 / \$50	10%		\$
Cheesecake Factory \$25	5%		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25 / \$50	11%		\$
Cracker Barrel \$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Denny's \$10	7%		\$
Golden Coral \$25	14%		\$
Happy Dining \$25	8%		\$
IHOP \$25	8%		\$
Olive Garden \$25 / \$100	8%		\$
Outback Steakhouse \$25 / \$50	10%		\$
P.F.Chang's \$25 / \$100	6%		\$
Red Robin \$25	8%		\$
Texas Roadhouse \$25 / \$100	8%		\$
TGI Fridays \$25	9%		\$
			\$

Product	%	QTY	Total
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Electronics & Office

Best Buy \$25 / \$100 / \$250	4%		%
Game Stop \$25	3%		%
Office Depot / Max \$25 / \$100	5%		%

Please make checks payable to St. Mary's Elementary
and select your preferred method of order receipt below.

Send order home with: _____

Order will be picked up from: School _____ Rectory _____

Product	%	QTY	Total
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Fast Food

Arby's \$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Auntie Anne's \$25	6%		\$
Burger King \$10 / \$25	6%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10 / \$25	10%		\$
Cold Stone Creamery \$5 / \$10	11%		\$
Dairy Queen \$10	3%		\$
Domino's \$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts \$10 / \$25	3%		\$
Little Caesars Pizza \$20	8%		\$
Moe's Southwest Grill \$25	6%		\$
Panera Bread \$10 / \$25 / \$50	8%		\$
Pizza Hut \$10	8%		\$
Quoba Mexican Grill \$25	7%		\$
Sonic \$10 / \$25	8%		\$
Starbucks \$10 / \$25 / \$50	4.50%		\$
Subway Restaurants \$10 / \$50	4.50%		\$
Taco Bell \$5 / \$10 / \$25	5%		\$
Wendy's \$10	6.50%		\$
			\$

Product	%	QTY	Total
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Gas & Auto

Auto Zone \$25	7%		\$
Delta Sonic SuperKiss \$15	50%		\$
Exxon Mobil \$50 / \$250	1%		\$
Speedway \$25 / \$50 / \$100	4%		\$
Sunoco \$50 / \$250	2%		\$

Product	%	QTY	Total
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Sporting Goods & Outdoors

Cabela's \$25 / \$100	10%		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25 / \$100	8%		\$

Front Total
Back Total
Grand Total

Parent/guardian signature _____

ANY CARDS NOT IN STOCK WILL BE ORDERED THE NEXT MONDAY AND SENT HOME THAT FRIDAY

Backorders

Office Use Only

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

Cash \$ _____

Check \$ _____ # _____

Check \$ _____ # _____

Date _____

Initials - _____