

# NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 6 OCTOBER 18, 2023

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Greetings, SME Families,

Thank you to all those who helped to plan the wonderful My Little Sweetheart dance! Our HSA board members were joined by parent and teacher volunteers to host a lovely evening for the young ladies of SME. The gym was beautifully decorated, the craft was well executed and age appropriate, and all guests had the opportunity to sit for a photograph to memorialize the evening. As I mentioned throughout the night, I attended as a dad - and had a terrific time! As the principal and a member of our SME community, I could not be happier or more proud to see so many people pull together to host the dance for our students and their guests. Thank you.

I look forward to our Trunk Or Treat event! If you have any questions concerning decorating your car, trunk-or-treating through the parking lot, or activities planned inside of the building, please do not hesitate to reach out. If you have never attended this event, I encourage you to join us on October 27th, as it promises to be a wonderful, family-friendly evening.

Regarding attire on October 31: Students ARE permitted to wear their costumes on Halloween. However, the costume or accessories should not interfere with their schoolwork. Additionally, all costumes must be school appropriate, masks may NOT be worn, and costumes should not be too scary or gruesome. Remember, we have a large number of students who are between the ages of 3 and 5! We do not want to scare any fellow students.

Finally, please remember that all snacks and treats brought to SME on Halloween or for any party throughout the year must follow the guidelines previously communicated by Nurse Dara. They should be from the pre-approved snack list, dropped off to the Main Office for approval, and be accompanied or in the original packaging. Unfortunately, home baked items may not be distributed. All snacks that are not on the pre-approved list will be sent home and not shared with students. Thank you for your understanding and for helping to keep all students healthy.

Have another excellent week at SME,  
Mr. O



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Tues. 10/24** - Hometown Catalog Sale Ends
- **Wed. 10/25** - Gr 4-8 Progress Report Upload
- **Fri. 10/27** - Trunk or Treat 6-8pm
- **Wed. 11/1** - All Saints Day Mass, 8:30
- **Fri. 11/3** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- **Thurs. 11/9** - Veterans Prayer Service, 8:30
- **Thurs. 11/9 - 10:45** **EARLY DISMISSAL** - Parent/Teacher Conferences, **NO AFTER-SCHOOL CARE AVAILABLE TODAY**
- **Fri. 11/10 - NO SCHOOL** - Veterans Day
- **Sat. 11/11** - Craft & Vendor Fair 9-3
- **Wed. 11/15** - Fall Picture Retake Day
- **Fri. 11/17** - Grandparents & Christian Witness (Oct. recipient) Mass, 8:30



## BY THE NUMBERS

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

*Sept. Donation \$7.70*

- ◇ RaiseRight Program

### Upcoming Fundraisers:

**10/10-10/24:** Hometown Catalog Sale (*HSA Sponsored*)



## P/T CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Thursday 11/9 from 12:00pm - 5:50pm.

A link to sign up for a conference appointment will be included in next week's NewsNote.

Parent/Teacher conferences are not mandatory. If your child(ren) are struggling in any area this is the perfect opportunity to meet and establish a plan for success!

## VETERANS DAY PRAYER SERVICE

We are planning to host a Veteran's Day prayer service to honor the veterans for our parish and school community on Nov. 9. The service will be at 8:30am in the church, and it will be followed by a reception at the school. We are inviting all veterans from families as well as active duty service men and women and any guests they would like to bring to be present. We are also hoping that we can gather some veteran volunteers to visit some of our classrooms and talk about their experiences in the military with our school students. If you would like to attend the event, please fill out the [Prayer Service RSVP](#) by 10/31. We look forward to honoring our veterans!

## HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our first HSA meeting. You are helping make our SME community bigger and brighter than it has ever been. Save the date for our next meeting on January 24th at 6:00 p.m. in the gym.

The My Little Sweetheart Dance was a night of smiles, giggles, fun and lots of dancing! Thank you to everyone who helped with the dance. You helped make it a wonderful memory for our students.

The Hometown Holidays Catalog has 6 days left, so place your orders today. You can get a head start on your Christmas shopping and support SME.

All of the fundraising HSA offers goes directly back to the students, teachers and our school. It helps keep the cost of tuition affordable, helps buy new items for our classrooms and pays for the fun events and speakers at school. As with any fundraiser, please help if you can, and participation is optional. Please participate in the fundraisers that work for your family.

**Trunk or Treat:** Our Trunk or Treat event will be held on Friday, October 27th from 6-8pm. Get your costumes (and trunks!) ready and plan to join us for some pizza, pumpkin decorating, and lots of treats! Click on the [link](#) to RSVP for the event and sign up to pass out candy or volunteer.

### October Events:

10th-24th: Hometown Catalog Fundraiser  
27th: Trunk or Treat Family Fun Night 6-8 p.m.

### November & December Events:

11th Craft & Vendor Show 9-3 p.m. *Volunteers are needed in multiple areas. Contact [Mrs. O'Grady](#) if you are able to help!*  
Nov. 30th & Dec. 1st Merry Moose Christmas Shop  
Dec. 9th Breakfast with Santa

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## ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Lancaster, NY 14086

Phone: 716-683-2112  
Fax: 716-683-2134  
www.smeschool.com



UPON THIS HILL,  
WE DO GOD'S WILL



## RAISERIGHT



Walk-in office hours:  
**Tuesday** 9:00-12:00  
**Wednesday** 12:30-3:30  
**Friday:** 9:30-12:00

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

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

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

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

SME Enrollment Code: 9A9F4CLA3L66

If you have any questions, please email  
[raiseright@smeschool.com](mailto:raiseright@smeschool.com).

Our team is here for you!

## MEGA RAFFLE

If you did not have a chance to view the message from our Mega Chair Amanda Barton last week, here it is one more time:

[What is Mega Raffle](#)

We are also looking for feedback on last year's event. If you would complete this survey with your ideas and suggestions so we can make this year's event even better. This survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

[Mega Raffle 2023 Survey](#)

Thank you to those that attended our 1st planning meeting! If you would like to join the committee, or would like more information, please email [megaraffle@smeschool.com](mailto:megaraffle@smeschool.com).



A special **Thank You** goes out to Kelly Tanski Photography & The Highland Carpenter (Mr. Barton) for your services and Barbie photo frame!



## HALLOWEEN



**Costumes:** Students are allowed to come to school in costume on Halloween. Please be sure that costumes do not hinder their ability to sit at their desk and work efficiently. There should be NO masks or weapons.



**Candy:** Please be sure to adhere to the safe snack options outlined in the letter sent by Nurse Dara. If you would like another copy, please let us know! Unsafe snacks/treats will be returned.

## RED RIBBON WEEK



**M:** Wear Red & a Hat  
**T:** Crazy Hair Day  
**W:** Neon Colors  
**T:** Superhero Day  
**F:** SME Spirit Attire

We encourage all of our students to join in the fun, however, if your child chooses not to participate on any given day they are expected to arrive in their school uniform. Follow dress down rules for pants.

## NURSE NOTES

Nurse Office hours:  
M-F 9:30am - 1:00pm

Please review this month's Notes from the Nurse attached electronically this week!

Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns:

[nurse@smeschool.com](mailto:nurse@smeschool.com) 716-683-2112 x128  
Nurse Dara Sirianni RN, BSN

## FROM THE ART ROOM

**Square1Art:** All students (PreK through grade 8) have been busy completing their one-of-a-kind artwork to be used with the Square1Art program. Square1Art is a fundraiser, founded by a Teacher, where families can order their child's artwork reproduced on useful and personalized keepsakes. St. Mary's Elementary School has partnered with Square1Art so every student feels like an accomplished artist while raising funds to offset the cost of ART materials for Grades PreK3-8th Grade.

**AGAIN THIS YEAR:** Square1Art will produce a Custom catalog featuring your child's masterpiece. Along with the catalog, will be a sheet of FREE stickers showcasing your child's masterpiece. Students receive a sheet of stickers regardless of purchase. All purchases will be made online. All orders will ship to home. (The ship to school option is no longer available).

**More information on this program will be coming home soon.** Any questions or concerns please contact me: [Mrs. Pesany-Au](#).

## ATHLETICS

If you have any questions regarding the athletic opportunities at SME please contact our new Athletic Director, Mr. Tim Williams ([athletics@smeschool.com](mailto:athletics@smeschool.com) or [williams@smeschool.com](mailto:williams@smeschool.com)).



### BASKETBALL INTEREST FORM:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/175erLQsXC5Nh92S-jaHPz4cH\\_xP31rGOaGguGRSo228/edit?usp=drive\\_web](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/175erLQsXC5Nh92S-jaHPz4cH_xP31rGOaGguGRSo228/edit?usp=drive_web)

The first step to the basketball season is establishing interest. Please complete the form ASAP so we can hit the court running!

## Social Responsibility



## Spiritual Growth



## Academic Excellence

## 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/](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.

Students should take the entrance exam at their **1st choice** school. Exam date is 11/18/23.

## STAY IN THE KNOW

**Save the Date:** 11/17 Grandparents Mass 8:30am

**Make Note:** 11/22-24 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Recess

**Save the Date:** 11/27 1:00 Early Dismissal: Staff Development Day

**Save the Date:** 11/30 Merry Moose Holiday Shop

**Save the Date:** 12/1 Christian Witness Mass, 8:30

**Save the Date:** 12/1 Merry Moose Holiday Shop



# RED RIBBON WEEK

OCTOBER 23rd - 27th

## Monday



**WEAR RED TODAY!**  
Let's put a Lid on Drugs  
Wear a Cap or Hat



## TUESDAY



It's Crazy to do Drugs. Crazy  
Hair Day  
Students may dress down



## WEDNESDAY



You're Too Bright For Drugs  
Wear Neon Colors & Shades



## THURSDAY



You Can Be Super without Drugs  
Dress As a Superhero



## FRIDAY



Drug Free is the Way to Be at SME  
Wear SME Spirit Attire

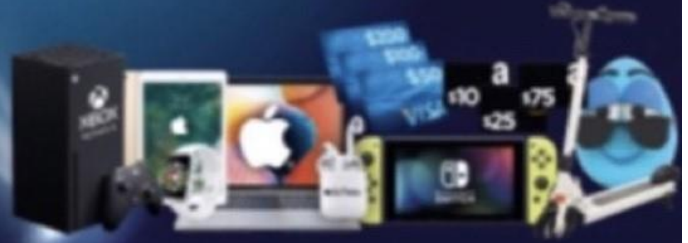


Please remember: If you do not want to participate in theme attire days, you are expected to wear you school uniform

# REGISTER SHARE WIN

A brand new program designed to help students and parents register online and share their fundraiser with supporters.

As supporters click those links, students get tickets to enter to win online from \$100,000 worth of prize giveaways!



Hello parents!

Our fundraiser is underway and we need your support!

If you haven't done so, go to [SHOPFUND.COM](https://shopfund.com) and register TODAY!  
Did you know that when you register and share you have an opportunity to win PRIZES!

PLUS...when we have 50% of our students register, we are entered into a drawing to win an additional \$2500 in PROFIT!

Can we count on your help?

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. O'Grady at [ogradyj@smeschool.com](mailto:ogradyj@smeschool.com).



FAMILY & FRIENDS SUPPORT NATIONWIDE  
@ FundPrizes.com



SHARE FUNDRAISER NATIONWIDE WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS



TRACK YOUR SUPPORTERS AND SALES



SEND EMAILS RIGHT FROM THE DASHBOARD



REDEEM TICKETS AND SEE IF YOU ARE A WINNER



# St. Mary's High School Lancaster, NY



## Next Steps!

Entrance Exam  
Review Classes

Nov. 1st-3rd from 4-6 p.m.

Entrance Exam

Nov. 18th from 8-11 a.m.

Register at

[smhlancers.org](https://smhlancers.org) or  
scan the code



We work with all of our families to ensure that a St. Mary's education is affordable.

Contact Andrea Drabik at  
[adrabik@smhlancers.org](mailto:adrabik@smhlancers.org) to learn more.