

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 29 MAY 8, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear SME Family,

For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the month of May to honor Mary, Mother of God. Throughout the month, many songs we sing in church are classified as Marian hymns. Singing in Church or even listening respectfully as others sing can be very special, as it allows us to praise God with our fellow believers. Additionally, Marian hymns are often rooted in God's Word, meaning the lyrics we are offering up are purely true and a perfect representation of our thanks and praise.

Many characteristics we sing about Mary, including her humility, faithfulness, obedience, and patience, are taken directly from scripture, many from Chapter 1 of Luke's gospel. Every year I find it so fitting that many of our annual celebrations or achievements take place in May, Mary's month.

Just as Mary modeled for all of us how to live as a faithful follower, our 3rd grade class can serve as visible reminders of our own faith journeys. Last weekend, many of our 3rd graders celebrated the second of three Sacraments of Initiation, as they made their **First Holy Communion** and grew in membership of the Catholic community. It was uplifting to attend this special mass, along with many of our 3rd graders and their families and friends! Congratulations to all, on this most special achievement.

On May 10, our school community will celebrate **May Crowning** and on May 17, our 8th graders will receive their SME class pins during our annual **Hope Ribbon Ceremony**. Indeed, May will continue to be a busy month, one in which we celebrate the hard work and efforts of our students, many who have waited patiently to take these final steps as members of the SME community.

As we begin to plan for preschool moving up and Kindergarten graduation ceremonies and as our older students prepare for culminating projects and final exams, let us follow the example of Mary. May we receive awards of recognition with humility, continue to uphold the student code of conduct with obedience, and attend the closing days of the academic year with patience, as we all await summer vacation.

Have a wonderful week and Happy May, my friends,
Mr. O



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Wed. 5/8** - PR3 Upload: K-8
- **Thurs. 5/9** - Ascension Thursday Mass, 8:30
- **Fri. 5/10** - May Crowning Prayer Service, 8:30
- **Fri. 5/10** - Penny Fair Day K-8 10:00-1:30, Pre-K 5:30-7 pm
- **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
- **Thurs. 6/6** - Spring Concert 9:00am K-8
- **Fri. 6/7** - Mega Raffle
- **Wed. 6/12** - Kindergarten Graduation, 9am
- **Fri. 6/14** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30
- **Tues. 6/18** - Gr 1-8 Last Day of School



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 \$9.30 in April

- ◇ RaiseRight Program
- ◇ Tops in Education Program

Link your bonus card

Mega Raffle Update:

Tickets Sold: 574

Tickets Available: 426

3rd Early Bird Winning Tx: #817

DRESS DOWN DAYS

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.



ART

Thank you SME families for making the SME Spring ART Show a priority on such a busy Thursday evening. It was gratifying to see so many students and their families at the event. This week in ART, students in Pre-k 3 - 3rd grade will be taking an "Art Walk" to find and view their artwork. Artwork will remain on display for 2-3 weeks. All portfolios will be sent home in June.

On Monday, May 13th St. Mary's Elementary-Swornville will host the 34th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibit. Seventeen students from SME have been selected to exhibit their Artwork at this event.

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Thank you to the book fair volunteers! The excitement and joy on the student's faces during the book fair is the best reward.

Penny Fair Information

The \$5 Penny Fair fee was due today. If you forgot to send it in, please send it in tomorrow. Attached is the schedule for the Penny Fair and we can't wait to see you there. Your student must pre-pay for the Penny Fair tomorrow.

This week is Teacher Appreciation Week and HSA needs your help. Please click on this [form](#) to find out how you can help on Friday, May 10th.

On Monday, the teachers enjoyed Chick-Fill-A, Peace Love Donuts, and other items for breakfast. On Tuesday, they enjoyed a day full of surprise prize drawings. Thank you for all of your support with fundraising so we can shower our rockstar teachers with love!

May Events:

Today: \$5 [Penny Fair Fee](#) due

10th: Penny Fair

K-8

Volunteer Information

Pre-K

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

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

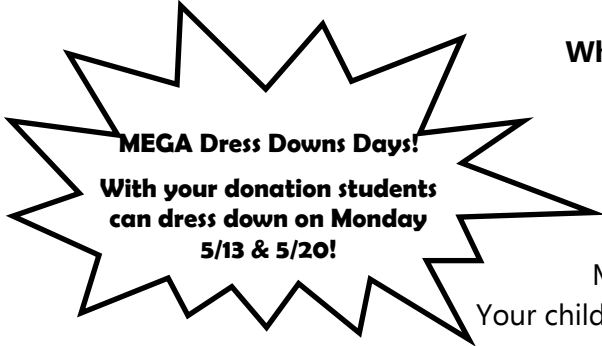


Spiritual Growth



Academic Excellence

MEGA RAFFLE



When: June 7, 2024 at 6:00PM

Where: St. Mary's High School

Tickets sold to date: 574 **Tickets remaining:** 426

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

Be on the go with Mr. O!!

Has your child ever wondered what it was like to be principal?

Mr. O has generously donated Principle for the Day to the basket raffle.

Your child will help Mr. O greet students in the morning, do announcements, walk through classrooms and attend a meeting.

Get your tickets today so you can win this amazing prize!

The volunteer sign up will be coming soon so please save the date (June 6/7) and consider helping with Mega Raffle. Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends are all welcome to help!

We have some fabulous basket raffles this year! Thank you to everyone who reached out to their local businesses! If you would still like to donate, the Amazon list is still available. Still need ideas? Here are some category suggestions: car wash, scratch off tickets, gift cards, date night, pasta dinner, kids crafts, gardening, golf.

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.



MAY CROWNING PRAYER SERVICE

Students are encouraged to bring a cut flower to Friday's May Crowning Prayer Service as well as a small towel to sit on.



Please note that in the event of inclement weather this event may be moved into the Parish Center.

NURSE NOTES

This month's Notes from the Nurse bulletin is attached electronically today!

AFTERSCHOOL CARE

As indicated on this week's Afterschool Care statements... The remaining billing statements will be **issued** on **5/6:** due Friday, May 10th, **5/20:** due date of Friday, May 24 & **5/28:** due date of Friday, May 31st

All accounts which are paid in full by May 31st will not be charged for Afterschool Care services during the month of June!

STREAM FLOWER SALE



Thank you to everyone who participated in our STREAM flower sale!

Don't forget:

Pick up is TOMORROW under the pavilion near the church from 1:00-5:30pm!

RAISERIGHT

RaiseRight office hours will stay as is until the end of school. We will be closed June 29th through July 6th. During the summer months (July & August) we will be open on Tuesdays and Fridays 11-2, for walk ins. Orders can be dropped into our secure lock box at any time and a pick up time will be coordinated with you during office hours or via our secure pick up boxes.

I'm excited to share that with the start of the new school year we will have an updated order form with new local places and other new cards added. I'd also love for anyone to email me with ideas of cards you'd like for us to carry! I'll gladly look into all ideas to see if it would be doable! Have a great summer and be safe SME Family! If you have any questions, please email raiseright@smeschool.com. I will be checking my emails every day and will respond promptly. ~Cindy O.

Visit the RaiseRight (under fundraising) tab of the school website for handy links & how-tos!

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

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: 6/12 Kindergarten Graduation, 9:00am

Save the Date: 6/14 CW Mass, School Picnic

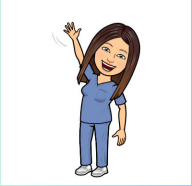
Make Note: 6/18 Gr 1-8 Last Day

Save the Date: 6/20 8th Gr. Graduation

Notes From the Nurse

May 2024

Dara Sirianni RN, BSN



Immunization Requirements

Reminder:

Tdap vaccine is required for students entering 6th grade in the fall.

Meningitis vaccine is required for students entering 7th grade in the fall.

Providers and pediatricians will notify you of such during your child's annual physical examination and these are NYS mandated in order for your child to attend school.

If your student is in need of these vaccines for next year an informational flyer from the CDC will be sent home this week. If you received a notice and your child already received the required vaccination send in documentation of administration to the Health Office as soon as possible.

Parents of incoming KINDERGARTENERS have been notified of required immunizations, please feel free to send in the required documentation as soon as it is available.

Outside Activities

With the warmer weather brings more time spent outdoors, the teachers do take children on walks on school property as well as outside for PE. Please make sure younger children have spare clothing in the event of an accident/ fall in the mud.

The Health Office does not have spare clothing.



May is **Mental Health Awareness Month**

1 in 4 people will suffer from some form of mental illness in any given year

Break the Silence
Break the Stigma

Not all pain is physical and not all wounds are visible

Out of the Ashes / FB

AS1HMA



Health Office Information

Office Hours: School Days 9:30-1pm

Phone: (716) 683-2112 ext 128

Fax: (716) 683-2134

email: nurse@smeschool.com



34th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition

Please Join Us!



St. Mary School
SWORMVILLE

6919 Transit Rd., Swormville, NY

OPENING & RECEPTION

Monday, May 13th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

EXHIBITION TIMES

Tuesday, May 14th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Wednesday, May 15th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Lancaster Public Library

Registration begins Monday, June 3 for July programs.



Registration begins Monday, July 1 for August programs.

Summer 2024

Registration required: www.bit.ly/lancasterlibrary or call 716-683-1120.

Summer Kick-off Party

Thursday, June 27, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Families are invited to celebrate the summer with crafts, sensory activities, popcorn, a duck race, and a rockin' reading show with the Hills Brothers. Pout-Pout Fish will make a special appearance. For all ages.

Reading Raffle: 4 BIG prizes

Saturday, June 1 - Thursday, August 22

Check out books to win. Kids 12 and under receive 1 raffle ticket for every 5 print books checked out. Teens 13-17 receive 1 raffle ticket for every 3 print books checked out. Four big prizes will be awarded. Prizes are funded by contributions from our generous donors.

Summer Reading

Wednesday, June 26 - Saturday, August 31

Kids: Read 10 books, color in a reading log or complete a reading challenge, and turn it in for a fun prize. Ages 17 and under.

Teens & Adults: Grab a BINGO board and read. Turn in your card at the information desk and you'll be entered into a drawing to win a fun prize.

Lancaster Village Scavenger Hunt

Monday, July 1 - Saturday, August 31

Travel around the village of Lancaster and collect reading-themed stickers from select village businesses. Once completed, turn in your scavenger hunt flyer at the library for a chance to win a fun prize. For all ages.

Rib BBQ

Sunday, July 21, 11:30 a.m. until sold out

BW's Rib BBQ: \$15. Take out only. Rib dinner includes potato salad, coleslaw, roll with butter, and a cookie. Location: Parking lot behind the library. All proceeds to help keep the library open on Sundays during the school year. Sponsored by the Friends of the Lancaster Public Library.

Frosty's Coupons

Monday, July 1 - Saturday, August 31

Search for a coupon for Frosty's Ice Cream in the children's section of the library. Several coupons will be hidden each day. Ages 12 and under. One coupon per child. Coupons are courtesy of the Leary family.

Family Shows

All ages!

The Great Reading Adventure with Cris Johnson: Thursday, July 11 at 11:00 a.m.

Magician Cris Johnson will perform a fun reading adventure show.

Glenn Colton: Thursday, July 18 at 11:00 a.m.

Glenn Colton will present an upbeat musical performance.

Bubble Show: Thursday, July 25 at 11:00 a.m.

Wow Party will present bubbles, magic tricks, and more.

Reading is Magic Show: Thursday, August 1 at 11:00 a.m.

A fun magic show celebrating reading.

Hawk Creek Wildlife Center: Thursday, August 8 at 11:00 a.m.

Talk on the Wild Side, a program featuring 6 animal ambassadors.

Zoomobile: Thursday, August 15 at 11:00 a.m.

Learn about animals with the Buffalo Zoo.

World of Wonders: Thursday, August 22 at 11:00 a.m.

The Wondermakers present interactive folk tales from around the world.



Lancaster Public Library
5466 Broadway St.
Lancaster, NY 14086
716-683-1120

Buffalo & Erie County Public
LIBRARY
www.BuffaloLib.org

Hours:
Mon. 10-6
Tues. - Thurs. 10-9
Fri. - Sat. 10-5

Kids Programs

Circus for All Workshop

Monday, July 8, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

A hands-on program with accessible circus props.
Ages 6-15. Presented by Benjamin Berry.

Summertime Crafts with the Lancaster Youth Bureau

*Wednesdays, July 10 & August 14
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.*

Create fun crafts. For ages 5-12.

LEGO® Club

Saturdays, July 13 & August 10

10:30 - 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Build your own LEGO® creation. For ages 6-12.

Introduction to Karate

Monday, July 15, 1:00 - 1:45 p.m.

Learn basic punches and kicks (no contact).

Instructed by Sensei Thomas Smith of Sumisu Dojo.
Ages 6-11.

Crafternoons

*Wednesdays, July 17 & August 7
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

July: Summer Olympics crafts
August: Summer adventure crafts
Ages 5-12.

Feelings Rock

*Saturdays, July 20 & August 17
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.*

A kids' music and movement class that is
geared for infants through age 5.

Kidding Around Yoga

*Mondays, July 22 & August 19
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

Come and enjoy yoga poses, fun music, storytelling,
yoga games, and a very special guided relaxation
time. For ages 3-6.

Science Saturday

*Saturday, July 27
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

Join us for fun science experiments such as DIY lip
balm and elephant toothpaste. Ages 7-15.

Paws for Love: Read to a Dog

*Mondays, July 29 & August 26
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (15 minute sessions)*

Pick out a book and practice reading out loud to a
therapy dog. For ages 4 and up.

Bead Art

Wednesday, July 31, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Create bead jewelry. Ages 6-12.

Art Magic

Saturday, August 3, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

A fun program of sketching, magic, and silliness.
Presented by cartoonist Tom Paul Fox. For all ages.

Royal Dance Party

Tuesday, August 6, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Move and groove with us in a special dance party
with Elsa from Frozen. All ages.

Hula Hoop Workshop

Monday, August 12, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Create and decorate your own hula hoop.
Ages 6-15. Presented by Benjamin Berry.

Joy of Trains

Saturday, July 27, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Join us in the children's area with an impressive
interactive toy train collection that all will enjoy!
Presented by Dean Hunneshagen. A family friendly
hands-on event. No registration required.

Young Adult Programs

Teen Painting

Tuesday, July 9, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Create your own masterpiece with local art teacher,
Kimberly Strell. Ages 12-17.

Paper Quilling

Tuesday, July 16, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Learn about quilling and create your very own piece
of art to take home. Ages 12-17.

Teen Self-Defense Class

*Monday, August 5
1:00 - 1:45 p.m.*

Learn self-defense techniques. Taught by Sensei
Thomas Smith of Sumisu Dojo. Ages 12-18.

Escape Room

Tuesday, August 13, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Solve puzzles and clues to escape a room in the
library before time runs out. Ages 12-17.

Adult programs

T'ai Chi Chih

Wednesdays, July 10 - 31, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, August 7 & 14, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

T'ai Chi Chih movements are practiced slowly and
softly with no impact. Class is taught by accredited
teacher Denise Miller.

Indigo Dyeing

Tuesday, July 16, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Learn how to dye your own tote bag.

The Mind-Body Connection

Wednesday, July 24, 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Learn about the mind-body-spirit benefits of martial
arts. Presented by Sensei Thomas Smith of Sumisu
Dojo. Ages 6 to adult.

Storytimes

Tuesdays:

Preschool (Ages 3-5)

July 9 - 30, 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

August 6 - 20, 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Toddler (Ages 2-3)

July 9 - 30, 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

August 6 - 20, 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Thursdays:

Family (Ages 6 & under)

July 11 - 25, 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

August 1 - 22, 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Fridays:

Lapsit (Ages 3-23 months)

July 12 - 26, 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

August 2 - 23, 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Toddler (Ages 2-3)

July 12 - 26, 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

August 2 - 23, 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



St. Mary's High School Lancaster, NY

Spring Preview Night Wed. May 22nd • 6pm

Register below!

Tour the building and ask questions
at this informal info night.



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

