

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 30 MAY 15, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear SME Families,

Where does the fundraising money go? is a question we field every year. I feel that is a fair question, and I personally enjoy responding because of the answer, which is - **100% of the money raised throughout the year stays with St. Mary's Elementary School.** The support we have felt in recent years has helped to enable our school's growth, and our HSA leadership team has done a fabulous job supporting and contributing to the mission of SME. Our collaboration has allowed all of us to flourish!

Specifically, we are able to host community events such as our Back to School Bash and Trunk or Treat at no cost because HSA is able to sponsor them and absorb the financial burden. Additionally, we were able to install a new water bottle water fountain, which was graciously donated by HSA. In addition to helping defer the cost of tuition, your support also contributes to updating learning spaces and making capital improvements to our classrooms. In short, every dollar we collect is invested in growing St. Mary's Elementary School, while we also work together to keep the cost of tuition as affordable as possible.

Various committees and groups work tirelessly to try to make our tuition rates as affordable as possible. In addition to offering a parishioner rate and a discount for multiple children, St. Mary's Elementary School also offers a **Referral Program** and **RAISE RIGHT Incentive**. Every new K-8 family that is referred to SME by one of our current 2023-2024 families and registers for the 2024-2025 school year will receive a \$250.00 tuition voucher. The referring family will also receive a \$250.00 tuition voucher. If this applies to you, one of our current families, please submit the appropriate paperwork when your referred family registers so that we will be able to credit your account! Our RAISE RIGHT program offers you incentive to reduce tuition cost, as well. Profit from purchases will be allocated towards your tuition account.

While these programs greatly help to bring funds into the school and keep the cost of tuition lower, our largest fundraising event of the year is our **Mega Raffle**. Did you know that funds raised from this event help to salary teachers and staff, build our academic curriculum, and offer extracurriculars? Per your tuition agreement, **all families are expected to purchase or sell two tickets to this raffle**. Currently, only a small minority of families have contributed to this fundraiser.

This year's Mega Raffle event will take place at St. Mary's High School on Friday, June 7, beginning at 6:00 PM. The grand prize is \$35,000, and there are 13 additional prizes to be won.

If this event will be successful, we are very much in need of your help. In addition to needing to sell as many of the remaining tickets as possible, we are also **seeking volunteers** to help with various aspects of running the event. Our Mega Raffle Committee is offering incentives for volunteers as a thank you for your time and efforts. Please see the extended message below for additional details.

It is vitally important that our school participates in this fundraiser. Due to continued inflation and rising expenses, our cost of operation has increased dramatically. The best way to help keep down the cost of tuition is by fulfilling your Fundraising Participation Responsibility. Active involvement of all SME families is necessary to keep expenses at a minimum and assure continued success of our school.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and help, and good luck to all who have purchased or will be purchasing tickets to our annual Mega Raffle!

With Gratitude, Mr. Olejniczak



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Fri. 5/17** - Hope Ribbon Mass, 8:30



- **Mon. 5/20** - \$ Dress Down for Mega Raffle
- **Thurs. 5/23** - ~~Walk-a-thon~~, 8th Gr Field Trip

- **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** - Pre-K Moving up & Graduations (Gym), Mega Raffle 6pm
- **Wed. 6/12** - Kindergarten Graduation, Church 9am
- **Fri. 6/14** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30, School Picnic
- **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. 5/20: Mega Raffle \$ Donation



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.



We are seeking volunteers to help with various aspects of the Mega Raffle. See the [sign up link](#) here.

This year we are offering our volunteers a special thank you:

Volunteer for at least 2 hours and receive the following:

- 1 lunch voucher good for 1 school lunch until the end of September 2024
- Entry into a raffle for 1 of (10) gift cards
- Entry into a raffle for a school gym uniform for the 2024-2025 school year.

We hope you can share your time to help make Mega Raffle Mega Magnificent!

We have some great items for our basket raffle but are still collecting more. Please consider making a donation to our big event! Even more, we would love to see you there! Food, drink, entertainment, and that chance for \$35,000! Get your tickets today for this fun, adult night out!

Get your tickets [here](#) or scan the QR code!



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!

As always, if you have any questions we're just a click away!

megaraffle@smeschool.com

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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

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

A huge thank you to our Penny Fair Chair and all the volunteers for another successful year of the Penny Fair! Great games, great friends, and great fun! Thank you for carrying on this SME tradition.

Our next big event will be the school picnic on Friday, June 14th so save the date. On picnic day, HSA will need many volunteers to ensure a safe and fun picnic.

Every week in the NN, will be new information about the picnic.

On picnic day, each class wears a class color and attached to the NN is the class colors list. If you have any questions, please reach out to HSA@smeschool.com.



ART SHOW

The following students have Artwork that was selected for the 34th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition. St. Mary's Elementary-Lancaster, along with 15 other Elementary Schools in the Buffalo Diocese participated in this year's event.

Congratulations to the following students who have work on display at the 2024 Diocesan Art Show.

Kindergarten- **Eve B.** And **Lily C.**, 1st Grade-**Violet T.**, **Victoria C.**, **Audrey H.**, 2nd. Grade-**Henry P.** And **Audrianna S.**, 3rd Grade-**Hannah G.**, **Jack J.**, **Myah W.** and **Jonathan K.**, 4th Grade-**Charlotte S.**, 5th Grade-**Nathan R.** And **Leah T.**, 6th Grade-**Grayson B.**, 7th Grade-**Kaden P.**, 8th Grade-**Sophia O.**

All students will receive a ribbon and certificate noting their participation in this event.

Thank you to the numerous parents, grandparents and family friends that came out to support the Visual Arts at SME! It was great chatting with all of you.

~Mrs Pesany-Au



AFTERSCHOOL CARE

A reminder for those families who utilize our Afterschool Care program...

The remaining billing statements will be **issued** on

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!



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 raiserright@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!

WALK-A-THON

The walk-a-thon scheduled for next Thursday will *not* be held.

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

This Friday our 8th graders will celebrate their Hope Ribbon Ceremony.

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.

Let us all keep our 8th graders in our prayers as they finish out their time with us here at SME and wish them all the best as they move onto high school.

STAY IN THE KNOW

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

Save the Date: 6/7 Mega Raffle 6pm @ SMHS

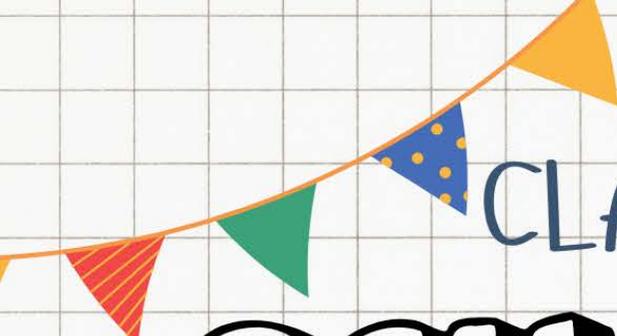
Save the Date: 6/10 -13 Final Exam Week

Save the Date: 6/12 Kindergarten Graduation, 9:00am in Church

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



CLASS COLORS

SCHOOL

PICNIC

PreK: Navy

K: Red

1st: Orange

2nd: Yellow

3rd: Green

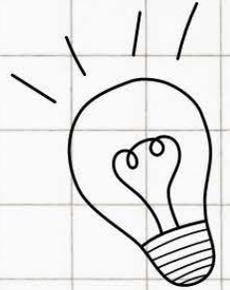
4th: Blue

5th: Purple

6th: Black

7th: White

8th: Class T-Shirts





**The MacDonald Basketball Academy and the Daemen University
Wildcats present:**

FRIDAY NIGHT HOOPS 2024

**** This is a unique summer basketball camp for middle school & high school boys ****

***DATES:* Friday nights from June 21st to August 9th**

***PLACE:* Daemen University in the Lumsden Gym**

***AGES:* Boys entering Grades 5th thru 12th**

HOURS: 5:30 PM – 7PM

***COST:* \$225 (for the entire summer)**

**** All campers receive a reversible practice jersey ****

Join the Daemen University Basketball Staff and Team as they offer an opportunity for middle school and high school boys to work on their game every Friday night this summer.

Enrollment is limited—this is a small teaching camp.

Call (716) 818-1100 with any questions

***Fill out the application on the reverse side and return it to reserve your spot in “Friday Night Hoops”**

**MacDonald Basketball Academy @ DAEMEN UNIVERSITY
FRIDAY NIGHT HOOPS BASKETBALL CAMP APPLICATION**

(Please PRINT and fill in all of the blanks completely)

Name: _____ **Age:** _____ **Grade: (Sept. 2024)** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone #: _____ **School:** _____

Email: _____

The camp assumes no responsibility for accidents or illness. In case of injury, the camper's personal insurance company is the primary company in any claim. Parent/Guardian Authorization: I hereby authorize my child, or ward, to be admitted to the Friday Night Hoops Basketball Camp at Daemen University and that the staff acts for me according to their best judgment in any emergency requiring medical attention. Daemen University sports camps and clinics are open to any and all entrants, limited only by number, age, grade level and/or gender.

Signature: _____

In case of emergency contact: _____

Phone: _____

Primary Physician's Name: _____

Primary Physician's Phone #: _____

Payment: Please make checks payable and mail to:

**MacDonald Basketball Academy
PO Box 1112
Amherst, NY 14226**

* Returned checks will be assessed a \$25 bank fee.

* Refund requests will be assessed a \$100 processing fee.

Call (716)818-1100 with questions

**** Full payment required to reserve a spot in the camp ****

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have other questions about the MBA Basketball Camps, please contact Camp Director, Mike MacDonald at 716.818.1100
macballacad@gmail.com

CAMP DIRECTOR



MIKE MACDONALD
Daemen University Head Coach

CAMP STAFF

Our basketball camp is staffed by some of the finest coaches in the country. These coaches have worked at every level of basketball. They will be assisted by professional and college basketball players including members of the Daemen Wildcats.

STAFF AT PREVIOUS CAMPS INCLUDED:

Bill Beilein, Niagara County Community College
Gerald Beverly, Italian Pro Basketball League
Supreme Hannah, Bulgaria NBL
Chris Kensy, Amherst High School
Matt MacDonald, Brooklyn Nets
Gabe Michael, St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute
Joe Pawlak, Roy-Hart High School
Des Randall, Villa Maria College



**MACDONALD
BASKETBALL ACADEMY**
SUMMER BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP

P.O. BOX 1112

Amherst, NY 14226



COACH MIKE MACDONALD PRESENTS
**THE MACDONALD
BASKETBALL ACADEMY**
AT DAEMEN UNIVERSITY

BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP

DAYCAMPS • FOR BOYS AGES 5-14

SESSION 1 | July 8-12
SESSION 2 | August 5-9



Former camper and current Daemen guard Justin Glover

DAEMEN UNIVERSITY
4380 Main Street • Amherst, NY 14226 • 716.818.1100

COACH MIKE MACDONALD PRESENTS
**THE MACDONALD
BASKETBALL ACADEMY**



**2024 SUMMER
BASKETBALL
CAMP**

SESSION 1 | July 8-12

SESSION 2 | August 5-9

9AM—4PM EACH DAY • \$350/WEEK

CAMP FEATURES

- All campers receive their “MBA” which includes: a reversible jersey and a basketball
- Strong emphasis on the fundamentals, especially shooting
- Team and individual awards
- “Mini-Mac” League (ages 5-8) with smaller basketballs and special attention
- **WORKING PARENTS SPECIAL:** Free early drop off and late pick-up. Gym will be supervised for 1 hour prior to the start of camp and 1 hour after camp ends.

COST

\$350 PER CAMPER

2 week campers receive a special gift!

DAILY SCHEDULE

8:00 - 9:00AM	Early Drop-off
9:00 - 9:05AM	Announcements
9:05 - 9:15AM	Stretch
9:15 - 11:00AM	Individual Instruction and Stations
11:00 - 1:00PM	Games/Contests/Lunch
1:00 - 1:30PM	Daemen Olympics
1:30 - 3:45PM	Games/3 on 3/ Guest Speakers
3:45 - 4:00PM	Binky's Bag
4:00 - 5:00PM	Late Pick-up

INSURANCE

Each participant is required to have medical insurance and fill out a camp medical health form. Any medical bills incurred will be billed to the camper's insurance company. Any medical expenses not covered by your insurance policy are the responsibility of the camper's parents or guardians.

FACILITIES

The basketball camp is held on the campus of Daemen University at 4380 Main Street in Amherst, NY. Facilities include the air-conditioned Lumsden Gymnasium the home venue of the Wildcats

MEDICAL STAFF

The MacDonald Basketball Academy @ Daemen University will be fully staffed with two athletic trainers, and we have a fully equipped training room to meet all of the campers' needs.

CONDUCT

The Camp Director reserves the right to dismiss any camper for misconduct. No refund will be given in that case.

APPLY NOW

Due to our popularity as a teaching basketball camp, it is necessary to limit the number of participants. Therefore, it is important to apply in advance by mailing in your application form as soon as possible. Those accepted will receive an email confirmation along with a camp medical health form.

ANY QUESTIONS CALL (716) 818-1100

**2024 BASKETBALL CAMP
REGISTRATION FORM**

All requested information below is required to complete camp enrollment.

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: FIRST _____ LAST _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

AGE ____ GRADE (SEPT. 2024) ____ DOB ____/____/____

PLEASE INDICATE THE CAMP(S) YOU ARE REGISTERING FOR:
MacDonald Basketball Academy @ Daemen University
COST: \$350/week

___ **SESSION 1** | July 8-12 ___ **SESSION 2** | August 5-9

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make all checks payable and mail to:
THE MACDONALD BASKETBALL ACADEMY
PO Box 1112 • Amherst, NY 14226

**A \$25 service charge will be assessed for all returned checks.*

**Refund requests will be assessed a \$100 processing fee.*

I hereby give the MacDonald Basketball Academy and Daemen University the absolute and irrevocable right and permission with respect to the photographic images that they have taken of my son during their participation in summer sports camps to use, re-use, publish and republish the same in whole or in part, individually or in conjunction with other photographic images in any medium and for any purpose whatsoever, including (but not by way of limitation) illustration, promotion and advertising and trade. I hereby release and discharge the MacDonald Basketball Academy and Daemen University from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with the use of photographs, including any and all claims for libel. This authorization and release shall also ensure to the benefit of the legal representatives, licenses and assigns of the MacDonald Basketball Academy and Daemen University, as well as the person(s) for whom the photographs were taken. I have read the foregoing and fully understand the contents thereof. Daemen University sports camps and clinics are open to any and all entrants, limited only by number, age, grade level and/or gender.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____