

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 20 FEBRUARY 28, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear SME Parents,

We are in the midst of another season of transition here at St. Mary's! Earlier in the week, our student athletes and club members took photographs for this spring's yearbook. Today, our pre-K 4, Kindergarteners, and 8th graders posed for their graduation pictures. Though we are still progressing through the final days of winter, our moving up and graduation ceremonies are now less than four months away!

As we take a look at the road ahead, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt and warm thank you to all parent volunteers who have helped us journey this far. Due to your support and partnership, we have been able to host many fun events and invite numerous guests and presenters.

I would also like to offer a special thank you to all room parents and coaches. In addition to many tasks that happen behind the scenes, a collective team of brave room parents have joined us for holiday celebrations, from Halloween, through Valentine's Day. They help navigate and direct the excited energy of our eager, celebrating students, as they help all of us make fun and happy memories.

And, without our coaches, we would not have a sports program! Even though it can sometimes seem like a thankless position, we all appreciate all of the time, energy, and sacrifices our coaches make to lead our young student athletes. Thank you so much for your dedication and time - and for sharing yourself and your talents so that our students can develop theirs.

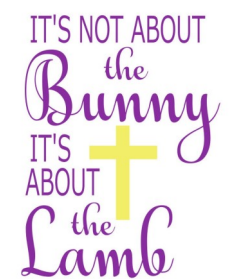
Have a wonderful week, and happy (almost) 100 days of the school year! I look forward to another successful season here at SME.

With Gratitude,
Mr. Olejniczak



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Fri. 3/1** - CW Mass, 8:30am
- **Fri. 3/15 - 10:45 Early Dismissal**, Staff PD
- **Wed. 3/20** - MP2 Report Card Upload: K-8, Living Stations 6pm
- **Fri. 3/22** - Mother/Son Date Knight Event 6-8pm
- **Thurs. 3/28 - NO SCHOOL**, Holy Thursday
- **Fri. 3/29 - NO SCHOOL**, Good Friday
- **Sun. 3/31** - Easter Sunday



- **Mon 4/1-4/8 - NO SCHOOL**, Spring Recess
- **Tues 4/9** - School Resumes
- **Fri. 4/12** - CW Mass
- **Fri. 4/19** - Meat Raffle

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

Scan in the app to earn!

We earned \$11.80 in January

- ◇ RaiseRight Program
- ◇ Tops in Education Program

Link your bonus card

Mega Raffle Update:

Tickets Sold: 215

Tickets Available: 785

Order Your Yearbook Here:

www.inter-state.com/order and enter code: 84834H. Yearbook Sales are online ONLY. Cost: \$20

TAX TIME

Have you begun filing your taxes? Is your preparer looking for our Tax ID Number? The directive given to us by the diocese is to *not* release that number. In its place you can/should indicate **Religious Exemption**. Specific questions can be directed to Mrs. Jezuit: (jezuitn@smeschool.com)

SME GEAR ONLINE STORE

Our SME Gear Store is NOW OPEN!

<https://all-stars.printavo.com/merch/stmaryselementarymerch2024/?page=1>

PLEASE ensure you are ordering the correct size for your child(ren). There are NO refunds/returns/exchanges for incorrectly ordered items.

Distribution will be upon return from Spring Recess.

This is the last time the store will be open for the 23-24 school year. We will open it again in the summer for the 24-25 school year.

READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

Our used book sale will continue through the end of the week during our lunch periods. Books will be priced between .50-\$1.00. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Lancaster Public Library.

If you find yourself able to volunteer with the sale these next couple days, please use the following link to let us know: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C4DACA629A0FA7-47459945-used>

Congratulations to our Youth Counselor who went from Miss (Pesch) to Mrs. (Stowe) over the winter break! A wish for a lifetime of love and happiness to you both!



HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Have you heard the news about the HSA Meat Raffle? Tickets are on sale now so grab your tickets or table before it's sold out! Also the Chest Freezer Full of Meat Raffle tickets came home too. Thank you for your support!

Next week on March 6th the Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser will begin. These frozen pizza kits are great for a quick dinner, party or pizza night! The fundraiser will run until March 24th and the pizza kits will be delivered the week of April 8th.

March Events:

4th: Spirit Wear Dress Down Day

22nd: Date Knight Dance - See flyer or link for tickets <https://date-knight-dance-29628.cheddarup.com>.

Please reach out to Alicia Sears at aliciarosesears@outlook.com or 716-531-2867 if you would like to assist with the event.

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ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Lancaster, NY 14086

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www.smeschool.com



UPON THIS HILL,
WE DO GOD'S WILL



Social Responsibility



Spiritual Growth



Academic Excellence

BISON SCHOLARSHIP

The BISON Fund pre-application for new or current families not on BISON for the 2024-25 school year opened on January 15th.

To start the process, families can complete a pre-application form online at:

<http://bisonfund.com/our-scholarships>.

The deadline is March 15th. Scholarships are awarded using a lottery system from all submitted pre-applications forms and all applicants will be notified of lottery results via email on March 16th.

Current families **do not** need to fill out a pre-application, they will be emailed a link to complete the renewal process and add siblings on February 20th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Bison Fund office at 716-854-0869 ext. 1.



MEGA RAFFLE

When: June 7, 2024 at 6:00PM

Tickets sold to date: 215

Where: St. Mary's High School

Tickets remaining: 785

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

Did you see what's new for this year? We are excited to offer a limited number of VIP tickets available for purchase online only. This includes admission for 2 adults (aged 21+), entrance to the VIP area including Lilly Belle Meads and a sponsored food pairing, as well as VIP only door prize. Get yours online before they sell out!

Our [Amazon Wish List](#) is set up if you would like to donate an item for the basket raffle. Thank you to those who have already donated items! We will be collecting items until June and remember you can always purchase items with a RaiseRight Gift Card - everybody wins!

We are always looking for volunteers! If you are interested please email megaraffle@smeschool.com.

MEAT RAFFLE



Mark your calendars for April 19th and come find out why our MEAT RAFFLE sold out last year!



This is one of our biggest fundraising opportunities of the school year and this year we are DOUBLING our capacity. So we need lots of help!

If you are able to donate any of your time, please sign up using the link below. You're going to want to be a part of the fun!

[Meat Raffle Volunteer Sign Up](#)

Freezer full of meat side raffle tickets went out to every family to sell or purchase. You need not be present to win! The table/ticket request letter is available here: [Ticket/Table Reservation Order Form](#) & on our website (Fundraising Tab: Meat Raffle) or hard copy by request.

The meat raffle needs your help! Show off your creativity by donating a basket for us to raffle off at the meat raffle. All donations can be dropped off for Mrs. Boundy at the main office.

2024-2025 TRANSPORTATION

A flyer with area transportation department links has been added to the registration tab on our [website](#).

All transportation requests should be submitted to your districts transportation department directly and are due 4/1!



YEARBOOK

Order Your Yearbook Here: www.inter-state.com/order and enter code: 84834H. Yearbook Sales are online ONLY & Cost \$20.

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>

We are also hosting a **Youth Lead Stations of the Cross** on Friday, March 15th. If your child is interested please sign up with the following link by March 1st: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DA8A72EA4F9C52-2023#/>

St. Joseph's Table will be held here at St. Mary's on Tuesday, March 19th. See the invite attached today with all the details!

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Hoag in the Faith Formation office: becky@stmarysonthehill.org or (716) 683-8564

RAISERIGHT

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

About the process:

RaiseRight credits are processed quarterly: March, June, September, and December. Mrs. Jezuit applies credits to tuition accounts based on the reports generated and received from RaiseRight. The RaiseRight office is not able to look into individual tuition accounts. If you (or a family member) is purchasing cards to help reduce your tuition you/they **must** designate the recipient family when opening an online account **or** by indicating the family name on paper order forms. Without this information the RaiseRight office has no way of knowing where to assign credits.

If you have any questions, please email raiserright@smeschool.com. Our team is here for you!

Creating an online account: RaiseRight.com

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

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

8TH GRADE INFO



Thank you to those that enjoyed a delicious Fish Fry on the 16th! We appreciate your support of the 8th grade class!

A note for the soon to be 8th Graders.....

St. Mary's High School is offering a practice exam for 7th grade students Saturday, April 13th from 8-11 am. See the flyer attached electronically today with all the details!

STAY IN THE KNOW

Save the Date: 5/2 Art Show, Spring Book Fair

Save the Date: 5/3 CW Mass, Spring Book Fair

Make Note: 5/8 PR3 Upload

Make Note: 5/9 Ascension Thursday Mass, 8:30am

Save the Date: 5/10 Penny Fair

Save the Date: 5/17 Hope Ribbon Mass

Save the Date: 5/22 May Crowning Mass

Make Note: No School: 5/24-27

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

Mar.
2024

Student lunches are \$3.50, 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; Julienne Salad, 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-\$0.75.** 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 = \$3.50 2 Lunches = \$7.00 3 Lunches = \$10.50 4 Lunches = \$14.00 5 Lunches = \$17.50	6 Lunches = \$21.00 7 Lunches = \$24.50 8 Lunches = \$28.00 9 Lunches = \$31.50 10 Lunches = \$35.00	11 Lunches = \$38.50 12 Lunches = \$42.00 13 Lunches = \$45.50 14 Lunches = \$49.00 15 Lunches = \$52.50	16 Lunches = \$56.00 17 Lunches = \$59.50 18 Lunches = \$63.00 19 Lunches = \$66.50 20 Lunches = \$70.00	21 Lunches = \$73.50 22 Lunches = \$77.00 Cash or Check to SME Change Will Go On Acct
				1 Cheese Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk
4 Chicken Breast & Cheese On a Roll Veggies, Fruit & Milk	5 Cheese Ravioli Garlic Bread Veggies, Fruit & Milk	6 Shepherd's Pie Veggies, Fruit & Milk	7 Chicken Souvlaki Bowl Veggies, Fruit & Milk	8 Fish Sandwich Veggies Fruit & Milk
11 French Toast Sticks Egg Patty Veggies, Fruit & Milk	12 Taco Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk	13 Homemade Mac & Cheese Veggies, Fruit & Milk	14 Chicken Caesar Salad Breadstick Veggies, Fruit & Milk	15 10:45 Dismissal NO LUNCH SERVICE
18 Pulled Pork Sandwich Veggies, Fruit & Milk	19 Meatball Italiano Bowl Veggies, Fruit & Milk	20 Chicken Dinner Mashed Potatoes Veggies, Fruit & Milk	21 Hot Dogs Veggies, Fruit & Milk	22 Mozzarella Sticks w/ Marinara Sauce Veggies, Fruit & Milk
25 Breakfast Burrito Veggies, Fruit & Milk	26 Nachos Supreme Veggies, Fruit & Milk	27 Buffalo Chicken Nuggets Veggies, Fruit & Milk	28 Holy Thursday NO SCHOOL	29 Good Friday NO SCHOOL

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY PRESENTS

GARDEN CLUB

SIGN UP HERE



HELP US CREATE AND MAINTAIN OUR
FIRST EVER GARDENS IN THE COURTYARD
OF THE SCHOOL!

Learn the basics of gardening and nurturing gardens, including information on pollinators and how to create a thriving garden. Help us plan what to grow, and be a part of the fun!

**STARTING WEDNESDAY MARCH 6--
THIS CLUB WILL MEET BI-WEEKLY
AFTERSCHOOL FROM 2:20-3:30**

MEET FOLLOWING DISMISSAL--
IN MRS. GUENTHERS ROOM 102

This Club is for students
Grades K-8. Only students
who are signed up using the
QR code above will be
accepted.

*Need more information or
questions??
contact Mrs. Tegan Guenther at
guenther@smeschool.com*



ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

DATE KNIGHT

A MEDIEVAL ROYAL DANCE FOR SME BOYS AND THEIR SPECIAL LADY


Please join us for an evening of dancing, games, pizza, refreshments
and photo opportunity with Kelly Tanski Photography.



Scan QR code below or visit
<https://date-knight-dance-29628.cheddarup.com>
for tickets by Friday, March 15th



2024 March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Christian Witness Mass 8:30am	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Early Dismissal: Staff PD 10:15am: Pre-K 10:45am: K-8	16
17 	18	19 St. Joseph's Table 6:30pm	20 Living Stations 6pm MP2 Report Card Upload: K-8	21	22 Date Knight Dance 6-8pm	23
24  EASTER <i>He is Risen</i> 31	25	26	27	28 NO SCHOOL: Holy Thursday	29 NO SCHOOL: Good Friday	30

SAINT JOSEPH'S DAY TABLE



Celebrate a wonderful TRADITION with us!

According to legend, villagers in Sicily many centuries ago prayed to St. Joseph, foster-father of the Infant Savior, and asked his intercession before the throne of God to end a dreadful famine. Their prayers were answered, and a special feast was held in commemoration of St. Joseph. His feast day was set as March 19th and on this day a tradition started.

Please join the *Beloved Disciples of Christ the Lord* family of Parishes
for a special meatless potluck dinner.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024 AT 6:30PM

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH CENTER

Everyone is invited to this free family event! If you would like to participate in the potluck, we ask, if you can, bring a dish to pass that consists of a dessert or fruit; salad or vegetable dish; or a meatless main dish casserole or pasta. Fish/seafood is acceptable.

Please bring hot dishes **HOT** and cold dishes **COLD**.

.....

So we can plan accordingly, let us know if you will be attending by March 1, 2024, by completing the response section below and dropping it at your Parish Office.

I will attend the St. Joseph's Day Table Dinner on Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Name: _____

Attending: # Adults: _____ #Children: _____

If bringing a dish, please list name _____

(please indicate if dish is gluten free)

St. Mary's High School

Lancaster, NY

Take the First Steps!

7th Grade

Practice Entrance Exam

Saturday, April 13th • 8-11 am



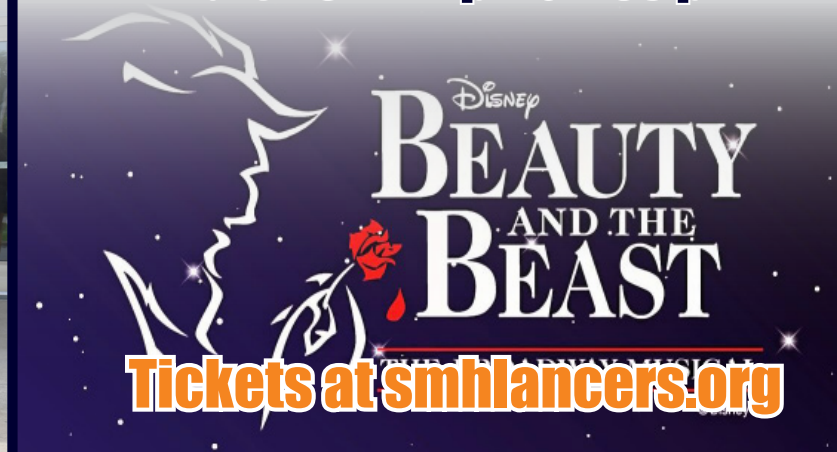
Join us for the Spring Musical

March 7th & 8th • 7:30 pm

March 9th • 2 pm & 7:30 pm



Register at smhlancers.org



Tickets at smhlancers.org

St. Mary's offers the chance for students to do it all - join a sports team, star on stage, create an artistic portfolio, and write for the school newspaper. These extracurriculars play an important role within the impressive academic environment that makes up St. Mary's High School. Our 400 students experience a supportive family atmosphere, which helps each one find their own path and succeed.

In 2022, we saw the launch of The Academies at St. Mary's High School, where students are able to pick a subject area they are interested in, similar to a college major, and meet with instructors and guest speakers and complete course work to really hone in on that interest area.

Students will then graduate from St. Mary's High School not only with a top-tier college-preparatory education in all of the core subject areas like math, science, English, and social studies, but they will also have real-world experience in some of the top career fields in the country.

