

# NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 26 APRIL 17, 2024

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear SME Parents,

I wanted to communicate an update on St. Mary's Elementary School's Middle States accreditation process. The Middle States Association is an outside agency that will serve as an independent voice that will assist in SME's self-study and goal of self-improvement. Throughout this process, our School Improvement Team (SIT) will establish and reach our goals, develop a strategic plan, and promote staff development, and advance student achievement.

The earliest stages of this plan involve Middle States surveys of various groups of stakeholders, including students, teachers, members of our school board, and parents. Our School Improvement Team will review the responses and produce a summary of the collected data. These summaries will be used to form our school goals and, ultimately, our strategic plan. As of this week, our SIT has completed working with the student surveys and will be transitioning to working with the adult surveys and the adult stakeholders.

The accreditation process is not always a pleasant one, but it will undoubtedly yield very positive results. Our school is in the midst of a period of tremendous growth and positive transformation. The Middle States accreditation process will help to ensure that we are growing responsibly and at an appropriate rate, so that SME continues to be a local leader in education and the best school possible for our students. If you have any questions about this process, please feel free to send them to me at [olejniczak@smeschool.com](mailto:olejniczak@smeschool.com).

Have a wonderful week,  
Mr. Olejniczak



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Fri. 4/19** - Meat Raffle (Doors @ 5:30), Afterschool Ends @ 5!
- **Tues 4/30** - Flower Sale Ends
- **Thurs. 5/2** - Art Show, Sp. Book Fair 6:00-8pm
- **Fri. 5/3** - Christian Witness Mass 8:30am, Spring Book Fair
- **Mon 5/6** - Spirit Shirt Dress Down Day
- **Wed. 5/8** - PR3 Upload: K-8
- **Thurs. 5/9** - Ascension Thursday Mass, 8:30
- **Fri. 5/10** - May Crowning Mass, 8:30
- **Fri. 5/10** - Penny Fair Day K-8 10:00-1:30, Pre-K 5:30-7
- **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 & Mon. 5/27** - NO SCHOOL

## STREAM FLOWER SALE



Our annual STREAM Flower Sale continues through the end of the month.

Order via the QR or link: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/spring-flower-and-plant-sale-temp-31362?cart=e36811bd-6b7e-4c1c-b50b-d5daee5d5d66%21%2176811784>

A variety of flowers will be available in 4.5" pots with a buy 5 get 1 free deal. There are also hanging variety & strawberry baskets available.

Delivery is Thursday, May 9th under the pavilion near the church.



## 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 \$25.50 in February*

- ◇ RaiseRight Program
- ◇ Tops in Education Program

*Link your bonus card*

### Mega Raffle Update:

Tickets Sold: 528

Tickets Available: 472

2nd Early Bird Winning Tx: #111

## DRESS DOWN DAYS

Mon. 5/6: SME Spirit Shirt

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.

## HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Only 2 more days until the Meat Raffle!

### Spring Book Fair Information:

The Scholastic Spring Book Fair will be held on Thursday May 2nd & Friday May 3rd doing the school day and during the art show. Help make this the best book fair ever by [signing up to volunteer](#).

### E- Wallet for the Book Fair

Go to the [book fair homepage](#) and click on e-wallet. An e-wallet is a way for students to shop without cash at the book fair and is a digital payment account at the fair. You choose the amount you would like on your child's e-wallet and they get to have fun shopping.

### Penny Fair Information

We are excited for our annual penny fair to be held on May 10th. This year we will be hosting our K-8 students during the school day, and our Pre-K students from 5:30-7:30. There are flyers attached electronically today.

K-8 Cheddar Up:



<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/sme-k-8-penny-fair?cart=aff91d24-b31c-4fa9-a1fa-de2d5094fcf5%21%2177084997>

Pre-K Cheddar UP:



<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/pre-k-penny-fair-night?cart=f4aa1485-74db-49fe-9bf7-e3fbdec0447%21%2177084440>

### Volunteer Information:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FACAC2DABEAC43-48672292-penny#/> <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FACAC2DABEAC43-48672831-prek#/>

### Cake Walk Donations:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4CADA923A2FF2-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

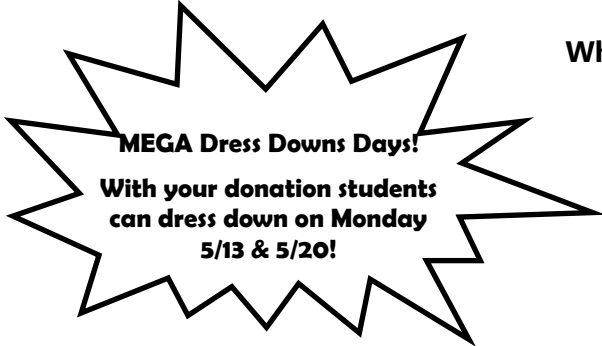


Spiritual Growth



Academic Excellence

## MEGA RAFFLE



**When:** June 7, 2024 at 6:00PM

**Where:** St. Mary's High School

**Tickets sold to date:** 528 **Tickets remaining:** 472

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

Do not throw away your shot!

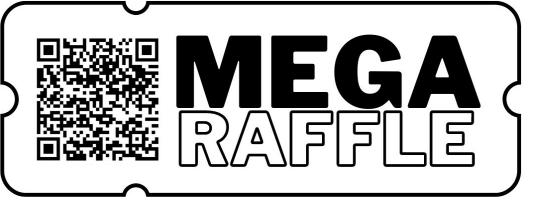
Get your ticket today before the final early bird drawing on May 1st.

What would you do with \$35,000??

Buy your Mega ticket for your chance to find out!

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 [megaffle@smeschool.com](mailto:megaffle@smeschool.com).

## SCAN HERE FOR ALL YOUR MEAT RAFFLE TICKET NEEDS:



## MEAT RAFFLE



April 19th  
Doors @ 5:30 Spin @ 7



*Please remember this is a 21+ event. No children are allowed.*

We could still use a few hands to help our event be as efficient as possible. 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](#)

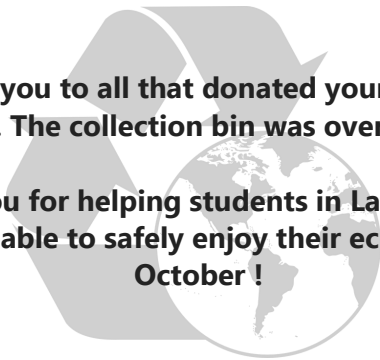
**It is not too late to get in on the action, but tables are limited!**

The table/ticket request letter is available here: [Ticket/Table Reservation Order Form](#) or can place your order via [Cheddar Up](#) online!

Rounds will vary \$1-\$5 so bring your dollar bills & snacks and get ready for a great time! We look forward to seeing you Friday!

**Thank you to all that donated your eclipse glasses. The collection bin was overflowing!**

**Thank you for helping students in Latin America be able to safely enjoy their eclipse in October!**



Our annual calendar for the 24-25 school year is in the works! We will share that with everyone as soon as it is available.

## ATHLETICS

Information for spring sports has been sent out. If you have any questions, please contact our athletic department directly: [athletics@smeschool.com](mailto:athletics@smeschool.com)

## 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>



## RAISERIGHT

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

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Until further notice **TIM HORTONS** gift cards are **UNAVAILABLE!** We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your understanding with this situation which is out of our control.

If you have any questions, please email [raiserright@smeschool.com](mailto:raiserright@smeschool.com). Our team is here for you!

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

Please remember to return your "Hope Ribbon Family Form" to Miss Sullivan by Friday, April 19th. You can send in the hard copy or an electronic version. Check your email for all the details! 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

**Save the Date:** 5/31 CW Mass

**Save the Date:** 6/6 Spring Concert, 9:00am

**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:** 5/14 CW Mass, School Picnic

**Make Note:** 5/18 Gr 1-8 Last Day

**Save the Date:** 5/20 8th Gr. Graduation



# **ST. MARYS ELEMENARY PENNY FAIR**

**\$5  
PER  
CHILD**



PLEASE PRE - PAY.  
USE THE LINK OR  
SEND PAYMENT  
WITH YOUR  
CHILD BY MAY  
8TH.

**FRIDAY MAY 10, 2024**

**GAMES,  
PRIZES AND  
THE  
TRADITIONAL  
SME CAKE  
WALK**



PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND DURING YOUR  
CHILDS TIME SLOT. THE SCHEDULE WILL BE POSTED IN THE  
NEWS NOTE.



# PRE-K PENNY FAIR

JOIN US FROM 5:30PM -7PM  
MAY 10, 2024

GAMES, PRIZES AND THE  
TRADITIONAL SWEET CAKE WALK!

PIZZA WILL BE  
AVAILABLE  
FOR  
PURCHASE.



PLEASE USE  
THE LINK  
TO  
PRE-  
REGISTER.

\$5 PER CHILD

(SIBLINGS ARE  
WELCOME TO  
PARTICIPATE TOO!)

PRE-REGISTRATION BY  
MAY 3RD REQUIRED.





Our Spring STREAM Flower Sale is here! Thank you for helping us reach our fundraising goal, with the proceeds used to offset the cost of STREAM supplies for our SME students.

We are offering a selection of hanging flower baskets\*, strawberry baskets and a multitude of 4.5 inch potted plants\* provided by Mitchell Greenhouses.

\*Photos are for reference only, colors vary and you will choose your favorites at pickup.

**SPECIAL:** Buy 5 pots, get one free! Mix and match any of the 4 1/2 inch pots. Make sure you include the free plant(s) in your order and adjust pricing accordingly. Hanging baskets are not included in the buy 5 get one free promotion.

Orders and payment due: Tuesday, April 30th.

Pick-Up: St. Mary's Pavilion Thursday, May 9th from 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Please make checks payable to St. Mary's Elementary School with a note of "flower sale." Check and cash payments must be received by Tuesday, April 30th and may be dropped off or mailed to:

St. Mary's Elementary School  
2 St. Mary's Hill  
Lancaster, NY 14086

For questions/concerns, please contact our STREAM Coordinator, Ms. Zaidel at [zaidelj@smeschool.com](mailto:zaidelj@smeschool.com)

If you prefer to order online, please check out:

<https://spring-flower-and-plant-sale-temp-31362.cheddarup.com>



### **Purchaser Information:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a student at SME?  YES  NO

If yes, student's name/grade level: \_\_\_\_\_

How are you affiliated with SME? \_\_\_\_\_

## 10 inch Hanging Baskets:

**\$22 each**

### **10" Combination Hanging Basket**

3 or 4 different varieties in each basket create a very interesting color and texture. Multiple different colors and plant combinations for sun or shade.



### **10" Hanging Basket Strawberries**

Everbearing varieties, Fort Laramie & Eversweet, will fruit all summer long.












Keep in full sun. Feed regularly.

\*If Mitchell's runs out of stock due to high demand, you will be able to choose a combination basket as a replacement.

## 4.5 Inch Potted Plants: \$6 each

**Buy 5 Get One FREE**

<p><b>Gerbera Daisies</b> Numerous color and flower styles in the Festival, Jaguar, and Revolution series. Solid dark-eyed and light-eyed blooms. Grow and flower best in full sun with adequate moisture.</p> 	<p><b>Cuphea</b> Commonly known as Mexican Heather. Will grow to a 24" shrub in full sun. Attracts hummingbirds. Loves summer heat. Colors include lavender, white, magenta, purple, and red.</p> 	<p><b>Double Impatiens</b> Fiesta double impatiens. Numerous large rose-like blooms that bloom all season long. Heat tolerant. Filtered sun to part shade. Multiple colors available</p> 
<p><b>Dahlietta</b> Vegetatively propagated dahlias have 2 1/2"-3" fully double flowers. Very uniform in growth habit and numerous flowers. Performs best in full sun. Red, orange, salmon, pink, scarlet, burgundy, white, yellow, and bi-colors</p> 	<p><b>Coleus</b> Kong coleus. Unusual and attractive colors with great texture. Great in landscape, a good replacement for impatiens. Many unusual cutting varieties available. Upright and trailing varieties for shade areas.</p> 	<p><b>Osteospermum</b> Sunscape Daisy. Cold hardy plant that will tolerate spring and fall frost. They make outstanding full-sun garden or patio plants. Keep evenly moist. Beautiful purple, white, pink, rose, coral, or yellow daisy flowers</p> 
<p><b>Petunias</b> Proven garden performers give color all season. Unique flower colors and patterns. Do best in high light, like lots of food and moisture. Excellent in combinations and solid plantings.</p> 	<p><b>Angelonia</b> Well suited for the hot, dry spot in your garden. Blue, coral, red, and white colors.</p> 	<p><b>Verbena</b> Large flowers in an assortment of vibrant colors. Attracts butterflies. Full sun.</p> 

### ORDER FORM

#### **Hanging Baskets:**

	10" Combination Hanging Basket	10" Hanging Basket Strawberries
No. ordered		

#### **4.5" Potted Plants:**

Buy 5, Get 1 Free  YES  NO

	Gerbera	Cuphea	Double Im.	Dahlietta	Coleus	Osteos.	Petunias	Angelonia	Verbena
No. ordered									

Total Cost of Hanging Baskets	Total Cost of Potted Plants		Order Total
\$	\$		\$